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STATE OF TENNESSEE
TENNESSEE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

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BOARD MEETING

10

June 22, 2006

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

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Cannon & Stacy

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1 BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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Mr. Randy Porter, Chair

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Ms. Wanda Moody, Vice Chair

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Mr. Charles Bilbrey, Member

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Ms. Katrina Cobb, Member

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Mr. Johnny Vickers, Member

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Mr. Mike Taylor, Member

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10 BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

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Mr. Ike Lowry, Member

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Mr. Tom Beehan, Member

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Mr. Freddie Rich, Member

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16 STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

17

Ms. Lynn Questell, Esquire, Executive Director

18

Mr. J. Don Johnson, Auditor

19

Mr. Duple Travillion, Government External Affairs

20

Ms. Sandra Telford, Account Technician

21

Mr. Rex Holloway, Director of Technical Services

22

Ms. Carolyn E. Reed, Advisory Attorney

23

24

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1 CHAIR PORTER: We'll call together the
2 meeting of the Tennessee Emergency Communications Board for
3 Thursday, June the 22nd. The time is about 9:00 a.m. We're
4 going to get started on time this morning. I'd like to
5 welcome everyone.

6 Let the record show that Mr. Taylor,
7 Ms. Cobb, Ms. Moody, Mr. Bilbrey, and Mr. Vickers are present.
8 We do have a quorum. Let the record show that the other
9 members are absent. We have an agenda, and we'll get started.
10 Hopefully, we'll be able to work through the agenda and finish
11 by lunch today.

12 I will apologize to all the ones in
13 the audience and the other board members, as the air
14 conditioning is out in the building. It's working a little
15 bit better in here than it appeared to be upstairs, a while
16 ago. So you-all bear with us, and we'll work through this
17 agenda as fast as we can.

18 The first item on the agenda is the
19 report of the Executive Director.

20 Lynn.

21 MS. QUESTELL: Thank you,
22 Mr. Chairman.

23 As a preliminary matter, I'd just like
24 to mention, this is only the third absence of Ike Lowry, and
25 we wish him the very, very best and a quick recovery.

1 I'd like to report on the status of
2 wireless carrier and VoIP deployment. As of April, the
3 following wireless carriers were offering Phase II wireless
4 service throughout the state of Tennessee and their service
5 areas: Verizon, T-Mobile, Sprint/Nextel, Cingular, Yorkville,
6 Advantage, Eloqui, Triton, Cricket, Alltel, and ClearTalk.

7 As to the deployment of 911 service
8 for VoIP: Vonage continues to test throughout the state, and
9 it reports that it has tested and is functional in 53
10 counties. It's working on some arrangements with Intrado,
11 TCS, and Frontier that will implement a solution for the
12 20 stand-alone counties. And they're anticipating that this
13 project will be completed by the end of July.

14 I next want to report on the number of
15 routouts. We've only had six -- I mean misroutes. We've
16 only had six reports of misroutes since the last meeting.
17 Which is a good thing.

18 There's a technical issue that's come
19 up that we just want to make everybody aware of. It's
20 apparently limited to Verizon. And they're calling it a
21 "blank call" issue. Apparently there are some models of
22 GPS-equipped cell phones -- that are used by Verizon
23 customers -- that appear to prevent a two-way conversation
24 from being exchanged when the GPS location is being updated.
25 They call it a "blank condition." And it can occur in the

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1 first two seconds -- just for a couple of seconds of a 911
2 call, and that it might cause the call-taker to think it's
3 just an abandoned call. And apparently what's going on is,
4 the phones can't provide a voice path and location update at
5 the same time and the priority is given to the location. So
6 people should just be aware of this.

7 I want to report on the status of
8 GIS-mapping acquisition. The Board had given Lauderdale,
9 Haywood, and Oak Ridge ECDs to July 1 to get their GIS maps
10 deployed. And we contacted each of them, and they all report
11 they should meet the July 1 deadline.

12 I also want to report on the status
13 of the \$150,000 equipment reimbursement that the Board
14 established at the last meeting. In the two months since the
15 last meeting, 23 districts have requested funding. And the
16 requests have, thus far, totaled over about 2 million. And I
17 think we have disbursed approximately \$500,000 at this point.

18 Harassing non-initialized 911 calls:
19 This is an issue that we're all concerned about and that we
20 will continue to pursue. Carolyn and I are seriously
21 considering filing something at the FCC about this, asking for
22 clarification. Because their last communications about it
23 were less than clear, or less than fully dealing with the
24 subject.

25 But before we do that, we think that

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1 the best thing to do would be get some statistics documenting
2 what kind of serious problem this really is. If you'll
3 remember, the VoIP orders that came down from the FCC, the
4 whole focus of the order was that people have lost their
5 lives, and they were big into those kinds of numbers and
6 statistics. So we'd like to be able to -- in our brief --
7 show what a problem this is.

8 So what we intend to do is create a
9 form -- and for a certain -- probably a month or something,
10 ask you-all to count the number of harassing 911 calls from
11 non-initialized phones, and to count the valid 911 calls on
12 non-initialized phones, so that we can get a picture. But we
13 will be putting this out in the next couple of weeks or so.
14 But we just wanted to kind of give you-all a heads up. This
15 would make our brief, I think, much, much stronger and get the
16 attention of the FCC.

17 I want to report that the annual
18 report should be going to the printers either tomorrow or the
19 end of the week. We're putting our final touches on it. And
20 we intend to send copies -- hard copies out to all of the
21 districts, as well as the General Assembly, and the Governor.
22 We have found it to be a helpful resource, and we hope that
23 other people will, too.

24 The feasibility study is progressing.
25 Staff's having weekly conference calls with Kimball and

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1 Associates to track its progress. Right now, Kimball and
2 Associates are identifying all the unused fiber and other
3 technology that could be used as far as a statewide NG911
4 project. And they'll be doing like a map with overlays.
5 The point is, we want to do this in the most cost-effective
6 way and not waste any resources that might be out there. So
7 that's what they're working on right now.

8 I want to report on the Funding
9 Committee. The Funding Committee has met three times since
10 its creation. And to their credit, they have agreed that we
11 should wait until we hear about the feasibility study before
12 they make any hard and fast recommendations. So I took that
13 piece of information to TACIR yesterday and reported. And
14 TACIR said that that would be fine, that they would be happy
15 to wait until October for a report from the Funding Committee.

16 Another interesting thing with the
17 Funding Committee is that at the last meeting -- we invited
18 the Chairman of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority, Ron Jones,
19 and two representatives from the Department of Revenue to come
20 and talk to us about different ways to track the remittances
21 and assure that 911 is getting all the funding it's entitled
22 to. And they had some very good suggestions: One of which is
23 actually a recommendation in the action items. So we will be
24 trying to follow up on some of those suggestions, and we'll
25 report about that as time goes on.

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1 The Operations Committee has not met
2 since the last meeting. But it intends to address -- at its
3 next meeting -- backup PSAPs and contingency plans, among
4 other issues.

5 As you-all know, quite a number of
6 rate increases will expire on June 30th, 2006, and the Board
7 has put into place expedited, shortened procedures for
8 districts with that expiration date to seek an extension. And
9 then -- so they had to file their extensions by June 30th to
10 have their rate increases considered during the next year.
11 And there are a number of them that have not yet filed their
12 applications to extend their rate increases. And I'm just
13 going to read them out so everybody kind of has a heads up on
14 it.

15 But these are due June 30th: Bledsoe,
16 Blount, Cheatham, Grainger, Hamblen, Houston, Jefferson,
17 Marshall, Maury, Meigs, Oak Ridge, Robertson, Stewart, Unicoi,
18 Warren, and White. If these districts want their rate
19 increases to be extended, they need to be filing an
20 application by June 30th.

21 I wanted to report on regulations that
22 the Board has okayed Staff to go ahead with, as far as an
23 approval process for programs for dispatcher training. The
24 Governor has put down an executive order that requires all
25 regulations to be put through an analysis about their effect

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1 on small business. And until Commerce and Insurance gets the
2 procedure for doing that analysis in place, they've said that
3 all regulations should be just put on hold. So that is going
4 to be put on hold for a while.

5 The status of board sponsored
6 legislation: I'm very proud to report that the two bills that
7 the Board sponsored during this session were approved.

8 The first was to provide the Board
9 with jurisdiction to assist in the deployment of emerging
10 technology capable of dialing 911. And that went through with
11 flying colors.

12 The second one was to treat VoIP the
13 same as wireless, in terms of the emergency telephone service
14 charge. And we would publicly like to thank Duple Travillion
15 for his work on the Hill. He basically moved in up there and
16 really shepherded our legislation through, clear to the very
17 last day of the session -- the very last few hours of the last
18 day of the session. But we had success, and we greatly
19 appreciate that.

20 I did want to say that the law -- VoIP
21 will be treated just like wireless. So the law says that the
22 VoIP providers will have 60 days, from the date the Board
23 notifies them, to begin the remittance process. And we have
24 begun to identify the VoIP providers and are drafting up a
25 letter to notify them. So we anticipate rolling this out in

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1 the very near future.

2 I did want to report that TACIR had
3 its meeting yesterday, and I was given the opportunity to
4 speak to them. And I thanked them very much for their idea to
5 actually crank out the feasibility study. And I explained to
6 them about the Next Generation 911 and the Kimball project,
7 and they were very positive about it. And again, they gave
8 the Funding Committee an extension of time to wait until the
9 feasibility study was complete.

10 The Governor's Broadband Task Force
11 is -- Rex is a member of that. And they should be planning
12 some meetings in the near future. A recent change switched
13 coordination of this task force to Director Pat Miller at the
14 Tennessee Regulatory Authority, who will become the Chairman
15 on June 30th. The Broadband Task Force's next meeting is
16 July 18th.

17 The next thing I would like to report
18 is something that I'm really pleased about, and I think
19 Rex Hollaway has got to be given a lot of credit for this.
20 TEMA has agreed that it makes sense for our board to
21 participate in the State Emergency Operations Center and to
22 act as a liaison between wireless and VoIP carriers. And a
23 joint memorandum about this -- that I signed and
24 Paula Flowers, the Commissioner of Commerce and Insurance,
25 signed -- was sent out to them. So this should be for real,

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1 and I think we must congratulate Rex because he really carried
2 the ball on this. And we appreciate that very much, Rex.

3 We also have a meeting scheduled with
4 the Director of the State's Homeland Security for July 11th.
5 We want to kind of let them know of our NG911 project and
6 start a conversation with them, as well. So we're really
7 pleased about that.

8 The next thing I want to report is the
9 Federal Voice over Internet Protocol legislation. Well, they
10 say that making law is like making sausage: You don't want to
11 watch it. And this is really one of those situations.

12 The House and Senate have each passed
13 versions of it. The House's version we like, because it
14 authorizes, specifically, that states can impose 911 service
15 charges on VoIP and it -- well, it's not perfect, but it was
16 certainly better than what the Senate has proposed.

17 The Senate's version basically says
18 states can't impose services charges, and it kind of lessens
19 the FCC's authority over VoIP.

20 We have contacted our senators --
21 Senator Frist and Senator Alexander -- expressing our
22 displeasure about that. And we've also contacted NENA. There
23 have been two amendments that would correct these problems,
24 that have already been filed. Just my speculative guess about
25 it is, since they are that far apart, chances of anything

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1 moving forward is probably -- nay. But we'll keep on this.

2 Finally, at the last meeting, the
3 Board approved amendments to Sprint/Nextel's cost-recovery
4 plan. They had sought amendments since their merger. And in
5 the course of negotiations -- which our lawyer, Carolyn, has
6 been doing very well with -- they agreed that some of their
7 projected cost in the plan should not be included. So they've
8 agreed to revise their plan. And it is projected that their
9 cost-recovery plan -- the amounts will be reduced. If they
10 are higher, we'll bring it back to the Board for approval, but
11 all the signs are that they will be reduced.

12 And that is all I have for the
13 Director's report.

14 CHAIR PORTER: Any questions of Lynn
15 on her Director's report?

16 (Pause)

17 CHAIR PORTER: Thanks, Lynn.

18 MEMBER MOODY: I'd like to go back to
19 it, if I could. The districts that you mentioned earlier, who
20 have not filed their requests, I'm assuming all of those
21 districts are aware that they need to do that, are they not?

22 MS. QUESTELL: Well, we have, you
23 know, named them all and set everything out at the last
24 meeting about what they had to do. We sent out a written
25 summary that named them all. And I think we probably ought to

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1 send a letter out to each one of them, just to remind them.

2 We'll try to get that out tomorrow.

3 MEMBER MOODY: Or could you just send
4 them an e-mail?

5 MS. QUESTELL: I'll do that.

6 MEMBER MOODY: To me, an e-mail will
7 be just as good.

8 MS. QUESTELL: Oh, Carolyn reminds me
9 that we did originally e-mail them with this information back
10 in April. Right?

11 So they have been notified, but we'll
12 send one out tomorrow, too.

13 MEMBER MOODY: Because you are having
14 some changes in directors and so forth. Just trying to help.

15 MS. QUESTELL: We're happy to do that.
16 Thank you.

17 CHAIR PORTER: Next item on the agenda
18 is to consider expanding the eligibility for a program
19 providing up to \$300,000 for the cost of consolidation to
20 include all ECDs rather than just the rural ones. Do you want
21 to talk about that?

22 MS. QUESTELL: Thank you,
23 Mr. Chairman.

24 Because the law does not differentiate
25 between the rural districts in its call for the State to

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1 encourage consolidation, we just thought that it would be
2 advisable for the Board to expand its program offering up to
3 \$300,000 for districts that chose to consolidate with other
4 districts.

5 So that's what Staff is asking, just
6 to expand this program so that any districts that would like
7 to consolidate with their neighbors would be reaping some
8 financial assistance.

9 CHAIR PORTER: You heard the request
10 of Staff. What's the will of the Board?

11 MEMBER TAYLOR: So moved.

12 MEMBER COBB: I'll second.

13 CHAIR PORTER: I have a motion by
14 Mr. Taylor and a second by Ms. Cobb that we expand the
15 \$300,000 consolidation funding to all the districts instead of
16 just the little districts. Any discussion?

17 MEMBER MOODY: Question.

18 CHAIR PORTER: Okay.

19 MEMBER MOODY: I think in order to let
20 people know, we need to have some definition of what that
21 means: consolidation of districts. Is that where you have
22 more than one bonafide district in operation and where they
23 come together, or is that where you have a district that --
24 where services are not consolidated for dispatch purposes, if
25 they come together? I think we need to have a definition.

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1 MS. QUESTELL: I'm happy to provide
2 that. This does not apply to situations where it's a district
3 consolidating services with a county or other local
4 government. This would just simply be two emergency
5 communication districts that would decide to consolidate their
6 operations together, just like Overton/Pickett. Right now,
7 that's the only one that is consolidated.

8 MEMBER MOODY: My feeling is to just
9 let people know what we're talking about.

10 MS. QUESTELL: Thank you very much for
11 that clarification.

12 CHAIR PORTER: Other discussion?

13 (Pause)

14 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
15 favor say "aye."

16 THE BOARD: Aye.

17 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

18 (Pause)

19 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carries.

20 The next item is to consider adopting
21 a policy requiring financially distressed districts to obtain
22 TECB approval prior to making expenditures over \$5,000. I
23 think we talked about that at one of our prior meetings and
24 asked Staff to bring that back to us?

25 MS. QUESTELL: Yes, sir.

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1 At the last meeting the Board did ask
2 Staff to develop a policy to provide some direction on its
3 supervision of financially distressed districts, which, by
4 statute, once a district is financially distressed, it comes
5 under the supervision and evaluation of the Board.

6 After talking this over -- quite a
7 bit -- Staff recommends that financially distressed districts
8 be required to ask the Board before spending amounts over
9 \$5,000. This level of supervision should allow the
10 financially distressed districts autonomy so they can actually
11 operate independently, but still allow the Board to fulfill
12 its statutory responsibility to provide supervision.

13 The policy that we would recommend
14 reads as follows: "Financially distressed districts must
15 request and obtain TECB approval before authorizing, making,
16 or entering a firm obligation to obtain goods or services with
17 a cost in excess of 5,000. This requirement applies to
18 purchases and expenditures involving partial payments of less
19 than \$5,000, provided the payments total more than \$5,000 over
20 time. Subject to the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated
21 7-86-306, the TECB Executive Director is authorized to approve
22 or deny such requests. If denied, the District may appeal the
23 decision to the TECB members at a TECB meeting."

24 And then there's a footnote that says,
25 "To be considered at a particular meeting of the TECB, the

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1 request for appeal must be received no later than two weeks
2 before the meeting."

3 CHAIR PORTER: You heard the request
4 of Staff to adopt the policy. What's the will of the Board?

5 MEMBER COBB: I'll move.

6 CHAIR PORTER: I have a motion by
7 Ms. Cobb. Do I have a second?

8 MEMBER BILBREY: Second.

9 CHAIR PORTER: Mr. Bilbrey second.
10 Any discussion?

11 (Pause)

12 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
13 favor say "aye."

14 THE BOARD: Aye.

15 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

16 (Pause)

17 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carries.

18 Next item is to consider adopting a
19 policy permitting the TECB to remove or replace members of
20 advisory committees after three unexcused absences within a
21 12-month period. Lynn, do you have --

22 MS. QUESTELL: Yes. The Board has
23 several functioning committees that have been developed to
24 help the Board do its work. And these are working well. As
25 with any organization, its successful operation requires the

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1 involvement of the committee members. We just really want to
2 get on the record that service on these committees is a
3 journey. It's like a conversation that is taken together, and
4 people have been selected for these committees because we want
5 their input. And hopefully, at the end of the journey it will
6 be a transformative experience.

7 Also, we have arranged for the
8 committees to participate by phone, so it's not like somebody
9 has to get in the car and drive anywhere, they just have to
10 pick up the phone. So -- and this policy that we're
11 proposing -- I want to make very clear -- does not apply to
12 excused absences. Staff does quite a bit of work to prepare
13 for these committee meetings, and to have people just not show
14 up is demoralizing. It's not -- it's contrary to the good
15 operation of the committee.

16 CHAIR PORTER: Just plain old rude.

17 MS. QUESTELL: Thank you, sir.

18 CHAIR PORTER: You're quite welcome.

19 MS. QUESTELL: So this is the policy
20 that Staff would propose: "If a member of any Tennessee
21 Emergency Communications Board committee has more than three
22 unexcused absences in a 12-month period the TECB may, at its
23 option, remove or replace the member, upon notice."

24 And then there's a footnote that talks
25 about the telephone situation. "When a committee has provided

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1 for telephonic participation, a committee member is not deemed
2 to be absent when the member participates in the meeting by
3 telephone."

4 CHAIR PORTER: You heard the request
5 of Staff to adopt the policy allowing us to remove committee
6 members for three unexcused absences in 12 months. What's the
7 will of the Board?

8 MEMBER MOODY: So moved.

9 CHAIR PORTER: A motion by Ms. Moody.

10 MEMBER TAYLOR: Second.

11 CHAIR PORTER: Second by Mr. Taylor.

12 Any discussion or questions?

13 (Pause)

14 CHAIR PORTER: Have we defined what an
15 excused absence is?

16 MS. QUESTELL: No, sir, we haven't.

17 CHAIR PORTER: We adopted a policy
18 like that on our local board and forgot to adopt what was an
19 excused absence. That might be good for us to do that up
20 front, before we get into a situation where that could be
21 questioned.

22 MS. QUESTELL: I think that's a great
23 idea. I guess what we would be looking for would be a reason
24 for not being there that is out of the ordinary. That if
25 there is a special meeting or a special thing at work; that's

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1 perfectly understandable. But if it's just you're walking on
2 and not taking any time; that would not be an excused absence.

3 CHAIR PORTER: I was thinking, too,
4 that you might want to add that -- to me, if somebody is not
5 going to be there, them giving notification to you that
6 they're not going to be there helps tremendously. But if
7 somebody just doesn't call; doesn't show up; that that be
8 automatically an unexcused absence or something.

9 MS. QUESTELL: That would be very
10 helpful, because we try -- depending on the time of the
11 committee meeting -- to provide lunch for them, and this
12 becomes problematic when people just don't show up.

13 We will add a definition of
14 "excused" -- incorporating those two things -- to the --

15 CHAIR PORTER: Is that agreeable to
16 the motion and second?

17 MEMBER MOODY: Yes.

18 MEMBER TAYLOR: Yes.

19 CHAIR PORTER: Any other discussion or
20 questions?

21 (Pause)

22 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
23 favor say "aye."

24 THE BOARD: Aye.

25 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

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1 (Pause)

2 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carried.

3 The next item on the agenda is to
4 consider supporting legislation amending Tennessee Code
5 Annotated 7-86-308 to expand membership on the technical
6 committee to include providers of non-wireline service and to
7 extend its purpose to include all emergency communications.

8 Go ahead, Lynn.

9 MS. QUESTELL: Yes, sir.

10 Right now the law requires the Board
11 to have a technical committee, which we do have -- which is
12 separate and apart from the Operations Committee and the
13 Funding Committee. And the Technical Committee, by law,
14 includes representatives from wireless services and wireline
15 services. Since we've changed the law to allow the Board to
16 assist in the deployment of emerging technologies that can
17 access 911 -- like VoIP -- we recommend that this law be
18 amended to reflect that, so that the Board can be advised by a
19 technical committee that's composed not just of wireless and
20 wireline representatives, but also has the VoIP community and
21 also, perhaps, some of the -- like perhaps Intrado or some of
22 those that also would bring that knowledge and be able to
23 advise the Board on the emerging technology.

24 So Staff is recommending that the
25 Board support legislation that would not only expand the

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1 purview of that committee to all aspects of 911 services --
2 just as the new amendments to the statute do -- but also allow
3 the addition of new members to the technical committee that
4 would be part of the community of emerging technologies that
5 deal with 911.

6 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. You heard the
7 recommendation of Staff. What's the will of the Board?

8 MEMBER VICKERS: So moved.

9 CHAIR PORTER: I have a motion by
10 Mr. Vickers.

11 MEMBER MOODY: Second.

12 CHAIR PORTER: Second by Ms. Moody.
13 Any discussion?

14 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
15 favor say "aye."

16 THE BOARD: Aye.

17 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

18 (Pause)

19 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carried.

20 MR. HOLLAWAY: Mr. Chairman. I'm
21 sorry. I just got an e-mail that people are having trouble
22 hearing on the Internet connection. So if the board members
23 could at least speak into their microphones, it will help
24 some. They can hear Lynn pretty well. She's speaking
25 directly into it. I just wanted to make you were aware of

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1 that.

2 CHAIR PORTER: Thank you, Rex.

3 The next item on the agenda is to
4 consider recommending that ECDs adopt a standardized
5 remittance form for use by landline carriers to assist in
6 the accounting process contemplated by Tennessee Code
7 Annotated 7-86-110(d).

8 Lynn.

9 MS. QUESTELL: This recommendation is
10 coming straight out of the Funding Committee meeting that we
11 had last month. This is a recommendation from the
12 representatives from the Department of Revenue. Basically
13 what they're saying is that anyone who is coming in to audit
14 your landline remittances or look at it, if it's all the same
15 form, then you can be comparing apples and apples, instead of
16 apples and oranges. And I'm not asking the Board to demand
17 that the districts use this, I'm just asking that the Board
18 recommend that the districts use this form.

19 What the form would be, would be that
20 the districts would send it out and ask the carriers that are
21 remitting to them to remit using this form. Because it
22 requires that they provide a count of the lines, and stuff
23 like that. So this is a form that was actually developed by
24 Buddy Shaffer. And if my recollection is correct, TENA
25 approved this form. So we're just wanting to kind of give it

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1 a little bit more of a push to get people to use it. Because
2 we would really like to be working towards having the
3 remittances verified, and this should be a step in the right
4 direction.

5 CHAIR PORTER: You heard the request
6 of Staff that we recommend that the ECDs adopt a standardized
7 form. What's the will of the Board?

8 MEMBER TAYLOR: So moved.

9 MEMBER COBB: I'll second.

10 CHAIR PORTER: A motion by Mr. Taylor
11 and a second by Ms. Cobb that we approve the standardized
12 form. Is there discussion?

13 MEMBER MOODY: It seems to me like --
14 that the directors should consider this as a help. I know
15 many of them express concern about whether or not they're
16 getting all of their fees, and by having a standardized kind
17 of form, that should be helpful to them.

18 CHAIR PORTER: I think so, too.
19 Will we be sending this form out to
20 all the telephone companies, also?

21 MS. QUESTELL: We won't be. Unless
22 you tell me to. We can.

23 CHAIR PORTER: Could we put it up on
24 our web page where it would be available?

25 MS. QUESTELL: What we intended to do

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1 was send the form -- e-mail the form to all the districts, but
2 also put it on our website, so everyone could have easy access
3 to it.

4 CHAIR PORTER: Other discussion?

5 (Pause)

6 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
7 favor say "aye."

8 THE BOARD: Aye.

9 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

10 (Pause)

11 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carried.

12 Next item is to consider a replacement
13 for Steve Smith, who was serving on the Funding Committee.
14 Steve was appointed to this board, and Tennessee Code
15 Annotated 7-86-309 prohibits board members from serving on
16 advisory committees.

17 Do we have a list of nominees, Lynn?

18 Or how are we going to do this?

19 MS. QUESTELL: Well, Staff would
20 recommend that Kim Augustine, the Director of the Madison
21 County Emergency Communications District, be asked to replace
22 Steve. She's really knowledgeable. She's extremely ethical.
23 She's involved with TENA. She's got a good handle on
24 operations, and basically a statewide sense of emergency
25 communications. And we wholeheartedly recommend Kim.

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1 CHAIR PORTER: You've heard Staff's
2 recommendation to appoint Kim Augustine to replace Steve Smith
3 on the Funding Committee. What's the will of the Board?

4 MEMBER COBB: So moved.

5 CHAIR PORTER: I have a motion by
6 Ms. Cobb. Do I have a second?

7 MEMBER MOODY: Second.

8 CHAIR PORTER: Second by Ms. Moody.
9 Any discussion?

10 (Pause)

11 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
12 favor say "aye."

13 THE BOARD: Aye.

14 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

15 (Pause)

16 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carried.

17 Next item is to consider authorizing
18 commendations in appreciation of the leadership and support
19 of 911 demonstrated by Senator Thelma Harper and
20 Representative Ulysses Jones during the legislative session.

21 Do you want to talk about that, Lynn?

22 MS. QUESTELL: Yes. Staff would very
23 much like the Board's approval to order plaques for both
24 Senator Harper and Representative Jones. They sponsored our
25 legislation. They have been great supporters of 911 this

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1 session -- and, really, every other session.

2 Senator Harper was so kind that she
3 actually made room in her chambers while Duple was living up
4 on the Hill this session, so that he could have a place to
5 kind of collect himself and make phone calls and stuff. They
6 have truly been leaders and supporters of 911. And we are big
7 believers in saying thank you when people do good things. And
8 we would like to publicly thank them.

9 CHAIR PORTER: Do we owe her any rent?

10 (Laughter)

11 CHAIR PORTER: Or child care for
12 taking care of Duple?

13 (Laughter)

14 CHAIR PORTER: She's a great lady, and
15 I appreciate her taking on our bills and being willing to
16 sponsor them, and also, Representative Jones, for doing the
17 same thing.

18 Staff requests that you allow for them
19 to buy plaques for these folks. What's the will of the Board?

20 MEMBER MOODY: I would move for
21 approval. And then I'd like to add to that, that once those
22 plaques have arrived, that you call a press conference to
23 present them to them so you can get some media coverage to let
24 folks know that the Board does show its appreciation for the
25 work that they've done.

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1 CHAIR PORTER: That would be good.

2 I have a motion. Do I have a second?

3 MEMBER TAYLOR: Second.

4 CHAIR PORTER: Second by Mr. Taylor.

5 MEMBER MOODY: With that amendment.

6 CHAIR PORTER: With that amendment.

7 Any discussion?

8 (Pause)

9 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
10 favor say "aye."

11 THE BOARD: Aye.

12 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

13 (Pause)

14 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carries.

15 The next item on the agenda is to
16 consider projected costs of digital street centerline
17 maintenance project with the Office for Information
18 Resources/Division of GIS Services.

19 I think we've had this already, Lynn,
20 but maybe there was a little confusion in what we approved.
21 So we need to just clear that up. Is that right?

22 MS. QUESTELL: Yes. We just wanted to
23 clarify the record. At the last meeting the Board listened to
24 Dennis Pederson, the head of the State's GIS mapping project,
25 as he proposed to the Board to authorize a new contract to

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1 cover maintaining the statewide GIS map. And during that
2 presentation he mentioned that the cost would be approximately
3 \$800,000 over five years. And as we've been negotiating the
4 contract, the cost will be \$875,000. And we just wanted to
5 bring that to the Board's attention and be sure that the Board
6 was still willing to approve the contract.

7 CHAIR PORTER: Excuse me. Do we need
8 to formally do a motion on that? Or how do you want to do
9 that?

10 MS. QUESTELL: I really don't think
11 that a motion is necessary, because that was kind of dicta in
12 his comments. But I just wanted to make sure it was on the
13 record that it was a different amount.

14 CHAIR PORTER: Let's do it like this:
15 Any of the board members opposed to the change in the amount?

16 (Pause)

17 CHAIR PORTER: Let the record show
18 that there is none, and all the board members are in favor.

19 Is that good enough?

20 MS. QUESTELL: Yes. Thank you.

21 CHAIR PORTER: The next item is to
22 hear a status report from the Hawkins County ECD.

23 Who's going to --

24 MS. QUESTELL: Gay Murrell.

25 CHAIR PORTER: Are you by yourself

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1 today?

2 MS. MURRELL: I'm by myself again.

3 CHAIR PORTER: Poor thing, you had to
4 drive all the way down, that far.

5 MS. MURRELL: Well, no, Teresa came
6 with me.

7 CHAIR PORTER: Oh, okay. At least you
8 weren't by yourself.

9 MS. MURRELL: It's good to see all of
10 you again.

11 CHAIR PORTER: It's good to see you.
12 Tell us some good news.

13 MS. MURRELL: Well, Mr. Lee is here in
14 Nashville, somewhere. He came down last night, so I'm not
15 real sure where he's at.

16 CHAIR PORTER: Move your mic. Get
17 into a mic real close because it's hard to hear.

18 MS. QUESTELL: Excuse me. Could I
19 interject? Mayor Lee actually called me last night about
20 coming. And I told him to be here a little bit before 10:00,
21 and it may be my fault that he's not here yet.

22 CHAIR PORTER: Do we need to go to
23 somebody else and come back?

24 MS. QUESTELL: Could we do that,
25 please?

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1 CHAIR PORTER: Let's do that, Gay.

2 MS. MURRELL: That's fine.

3 CHAIR PORTER: If you'll wave your
4 hand when he comes in, we'll put you next.

5 MS. MURRELL: That will be great.

6 CHAIR PORTER: And we'll move on to
7 consider the status of Campbell County ECD as a financially
8 distressed district.

9 Are the folks from Campbell County
10 here?

11 (Pause)

12 CHAIR PORTER: If you would, come up
13 and have a seat at the table. If you-all would, make sure you
14 get real close into the mics so that we can hear and they can
15 hear across the Internet -- for the folks listening. And if
16 you would, just state your names for the record.

17 MR. WIDENER: I'm Bill Widener. I'm
18 the Chairman of the 911.

19 MR. HUTSON: Charles Hutson, Director.

20 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. Thank you.

21 Lynn, you want to say something?

22 MS. QUESTELL: Yes. Welcome.

23 I wanted to just give a little context
24 to their appearance here. Campbell County Emergency
25 Communications District has been a financially distressed

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1 district since February 2001. It has been financially
2 distressed longer than any other district in our state. At
3 the time that they were deemed financially distressed, the
4 Board increased their emergency telephone service charge to
5 \$1.15 for residential lines, and \$2.50 for business lines.
6 The reason that they're here is really because of me.

7 As part of our research for the Funding
8 Committee, we sent a survey out to all of the districts. And
9 we want to say thank you, on the record. We have had -- I
10 think all but two districts have responded to the survey, so
11 we're really appreciative of that. I digress.

12 Six districts responded that they were
13 in poor financial shape. One of the questions on the survey
14 was: How would you rate the financial condition of your
15 district? And six of the districts said they were in poor or
16 worse shape.

17 And I contacted each of those six
18 districts. And the only one -- and when I contacted them, I
19 offered to have the Board consider them to be financially
20 distressed to try to bring them under the Board's supervision
21 and evaluation to try to help improve their financial
22 situation. And of those six districts, Campbell County
23 answered, "Yes, we would like to have our rates raised."

24 So after that, Staff went to beautiful
25 Campbell County for a -- to hold a hearing to consider raising

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1 the rates. The law actually requires the Board -- or its
2 representatives -- which would be us -- to go to any
3 financially distressed district and hold a hearing in the
4 district location before considering raising the rates. So we
5 did that.

6 We held a hearing on June 14th, and
7 there were no objections to raising the rates at that time.
8 And I guess that's really all I have to say.

9 CHAIR PORTER: It's my recollection
10 that she's right. Campbell was the first county, I think, I
11 visited when we were doing the site surveys, and we knew then
12 when you wanted to raise your rates, that we'd probably be
13 seeing you again with the problem.

14 Of course, for the record, everybody
15 probably knows that LaFollette ECD pulled out of Campbell
16 County. There was a split years ago, which caused a lot of
17 the problems. And they're on the agenda a little bit later
18 down. So we'll be discussing them.

19 Our only thing with Campbell County, I
20 guess, is the business line: raising it from \$2 and a half to
21 \$3. That's all we can do for them, right?

22 MS. QUESTELL: No, actually, their
23 residential rate is at \$1.15, and it can be raised to \$1.50.

24 CHAIR PORTER: Oh, \$1.15. I'm sorry.
25 I thought you said \$1.50. Okay.

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1 MS. QUESTELL: I didn't enunciate very
2 good.

3 CHAIR PORTER: Rex, do you have a --
4 and for the folks that haven't been here before, the way we
5 normally do our financially distressed districts and our rate
6 increases is that we hear from Staff, and they give their
7 reports on their visit with the district; then we hear from
8 the district folks, if you have anything that you would like
9 to say; and then the Board goes into its deliberations and
10 makes a decision.

11 So, Rex, I think you-all were wanting
12 to change things around a little bit -- maybe -- from the way
13 we have done them. You go first?

14 MR. HOLLAWAY: We decided to come up
15 with consolidated reports, instead of having two separate
16 reports. And Don has changed the way he's done things, and he
17 can explain that later.

18 So you have the report itself, a six-
19 or seven-page report with photos. Lynn has given you the
20 background. I conducted my site visit on May 31st; met with
21 Mr. Hutson; he gave me all the information and showed me
22 around the PSAP. Hopefully, this report will give you a
23 little bit of a brief overview of the environment that they
24 operate in today.

25 The PSAP and the ECD, both, are

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1 actually located in LaFollette. And they answer all the calls
2 for Campbell County, except for the City of LaFollette.

3 There are 11,842 residential and 1,509
4 business telephone lines -- landlines. You've already
5 discussed the rate. They're at \$1.15 and \$2.50. Their
6 primary service provider is BellSouth.

7 They have four 911 trunks. They have
8 two additional 911 trunks for wireless and VoIP calls. They
9 have two positions, and they're actually can take telephone
10 calls and also radio dispatch to their responders. And they
11 do have a third position, also, that acts as a command
12 position.

13 Personnel-wise, they have eight
14 full-time and two part-time dispatchers. And they pretty
15 much can keep the center manned by two positions, around the
16 clock -- although they do drop to one dispatcher between 2:30
17 and 6:30 in the morning.

18 Mr. Hutson -- in addition to being the
19 ECD director -- provides the supervisory task of the PSAP and
20 the ECD, but also employs an addressing coordinator to help
21 with that item.

22 As far as systems, they have a
23 Zetron 911 controller that's provided InterAct, along with an
24 InterAct GIS system. And they actually have a suite of
25 InterAct products, which also includes the CAD system. The

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1 Best Power UPS system is a few years old and provides limited
2 backup for the critical dispatch equipment. And then they
3 also have a Caterpillar generator at the rear of the building.
4 Augalog (phonetically) is the logging recorder they use.
5 Radio console is a Motorola series.

6 And looking at the equipment room,
7 their PSAP space, overall, is pretty congested, but in
8 particular, the equipment room -- as a matter of fact, they
9 have to leave the door open all the time just to keep the
10 equipment cooled down, which obviously heats up the rest of
11 building -- or they have to cool the rest of the building --
12 especially during the summer -- more than they might normally
13 cool it.

14 Just a couple of technical
15 recommendations: One is to update and upgrade the UPS for
16 extended backup time: either one hour or a minimum of backup
17 time on a battery system. And then also to develop written
18 evacuation and backup plans, which is something I kind of
19 dropped on here. But this is something that the
20 Operations Committee is going help them with -- along with
21 all the ECDs across the state.

22 And with that, I'll turn it over to
23 Don for his comments.

24 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Just about pretty
25 much of it you already said.

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1 CHAIR PORTER: He didn't leave you
2 with a whole lot.

3 MR. JOHNSON: With hardly anything.

4 Of course you-all know, they're here
5 for a rate increase. The certified population as of the
6 2000 Census is 39,854. They're a Tier III district.

7 And looking at their application,
8 their reason for the rate extension would be to meet the cost
9 of the day-to-day operations of the center and to replace
10 obsolete equipment and increase dispatcher salaries to be more
11 competitive. Because when I talked to Charlie, he was telling
12 me that, pretty much, they would get the dispatchers trained
13 and then they would go off to another district and dispatch
14 there to make more money. So he wants to be more competitive
15 to a lot of his surrounding counties.

16 Also, Campbell County, they said
17 they're very limited in their type of contingency plan. In
18 ten years of service, the Campbell County government has
19 provided extra funds one time, and that was last year, to help
20 them pay off their building. They get some support from
21 Campbell County, but extra funding -- that was the first time.
22 When they really needed it, they did help.

23 Like Rex said, they have 11,842
24 residential lines; 1,509 business lines. And that was as of
25 May the 6th -- I mean, May of 2006. As far as their funding

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1 from local governments, they didn't get anything from the City
2 to provide revenue or anything for the past couple of years.
3 The County provided them, in 2004, \$172,577; and in 2005,
4 \$177,709. And that extra money was -- like I said, it was to
5 go to pay for the building and pay off the equipment loan.

6 Looking at the past five audit
7 reports -- well, really, since they have been here before, I
8 only went back to the past three audit reports. They've
9 improved a great deal. They only had one finding, and that
10 was overexpenditure of their budget. So that's one of the
11 things that they have to work on.

12 As far as on Page 8 of the report that
13 me and Rex had, on Table 3 it shows the comparative of their
14 past audit reports all the way from 2002 to 2005. And it also
15 shows that last year, that they did pretty good, as far as
16 coming out of their -- of not having any deficit, net loss, or
17 change in net assets. So hopefully this year, they look like
18 they're doing all right, but we'll see -- to be for sure is
19 upon this year's audit.

20 On Table number 4, if they were to get
21 the rate increase of \$1.50 and \$3 for business lines, then as
22 far as -- they could start -- if it was by July 1st, if they
23 could start then, the District will have a positive net asset
24 of \$233,528 in fiscal year 2007. And at that rate, the
25 District will continue to produce a change in net assets

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1 through the next year of '08 of \$28,928.

2 With all the expenses remaining
3 constant -- is usually what I normally do, you know, in order
4 to keep them -- you know, to get some kind of idea of what's
5 going on, they would have a negative change in net assets of
6 \$11,072, beginning in fiscal year 2009. And then the negative
7 change will continue through 2011. And at the end -- the
8 ending net assets for fiscal year 2011 is projected to
9 increase to \$508,276. And then the ending cash balance for
10 fiscal year 2011 is projected at 577,985.

11 And that's pretty much it, that I
12 have.

13 CHAIR PORTER: Don, I think Ms. Moody
14 caught an error we might want to have corrected for the
15 record, on Table number 4.

16 MR. JOHNSON: All right.

17 CHAIR PORTER: Up at the top, it's got
18 their current residential and business rates at 65 cents and
19 \$2. I think their current rate is \$1.15 and \$2.50.

20 MR. JOHNSON: Yes.

21 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. You've heard the
22 report from Don and Rex; any questions of them?

23 Lynn, did you want to say something?

24 MS. QUESTELL: Yes. I wanted to ask
25 Rex to address the issue of the PSAP proximity to the railroad

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1 line. And I wanted Don to address the issue of whether the
2 District would have had a negative or positive ending of the
3 year had not the District received that one-time \$80,000
4 contribution by the County.

5 MR. HOLLAWAY: Well, you could look
6 out the Director's window; they're probably less than a
7 football field away from the railroad tracks, which is
8 directly across from the main road through Jacksboro there.
9 Excuse me, through -- it's called Jacksboro Highway. Excuse
10 me. And the railroad track runs down the length of the
11 highway for a pretty good distance.

12 I'm not really sure how often the
13 trains come through. You would know, certainly better than I
14 do.

15 MR. HUTSON: Probably about every 40
16 minutes.

17 MR. HOLLAWAY: Every 40 minutes.

18 CHAIR PORTER: What we're saying is
19 that that's not a good situation. The PSAP probably needs to
20 be away from those railroad tracks.

21 MR. HOLLAWAY: Well, especially when
22 you've got -- the only other PSAP is pretty close, also. It's
23 probably another additional, you know, 100 yards -- 2- or 300
24 yards away. But they're still pretty close also.

25 MS. MOODY: Especially considering the

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1 fact the recent trail derailment we had just this week in
2 Sweetwater. The folks down there were out of their homes for
3 about 48 hours.

4 CHAIR PORTER: Of course, you've got
5 to have money to move them.

6 Don, you want to address that issue?

7 MR. JOHNSON: Looking at their
8 comparatives on Table 3 in fiscal year 2005, you can see that
9 the revenue they had was about \$286,000, and their
10 expenditures were \$489,000. The County gave them 256,000.
11 Now, if the County had actually given them the same -- or
12 roughly about the same amount that they've been in the past,
13 it would be considered --

14 CHAIR PORTER: They would be in the
15 hole.

16 MR. JOHNSON: Yeah.

17 CHAIR PORTER: Was that just out of
18 the goodness of their heart, a one-time thing?

19 MR. HUTSON: The way we've always
20 operated once we started, the County authorized to pay for
21 five dispatchers. And as time has gone on, the only real
22 money increase we had received was like 3 percent a year or
23 4 percent a year, or whatever the County does with the general
24 fund was exactly what come to 911. This has gone on for
25 several years, and we have pretty well paid the cost with the

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1 increase of insurance with the employees. We took care of
2 that, plus we put on some other employees that we paid for out
3 the 911 fund.

4 When we went before the Finance
5 Director to talk to them about this, their words were they
6 wouldn't pay reoccurring costs, but if we had any debt, which
7 at that time we owed for the building and we still owed, of
8 course, on the equipment. You put those two together and
9 that's where the money come up that Don was talking about. We
10 paid those bills off.

11 Currently we owe no major bills.
12 We're in the process now -- it's not gone through yet, but
13 we've talked about this: I have one of the county
14 commissioners with us today, John Bond, who also sits on our
15 board. We're hoping to pull off a deal with a company in
16 LaFollette who is going to offer us some property that will
17 get us away from the major highway and get us away from the
18 railroad tracks. Part of the reason we're down here for the
19 increase is, we would like to start -- if we can get this land
20 from the company, we'd like to start construction on building
21 a new facility. Plus, as we mentioned earlier, we have a real
22 problem in Campbell County. We have to kind of compete with
23 Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and also Knoxville, Tennessee. Some
24 bigger people that pay a lot better than we do.

25 I've lost four dispatchers to those

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1 companies, to Knox County. And currently, that's one of our
2 biggest problems. We've got people that's been there ten
3 years not making \$11. That's tough. Insurance goes up every
4 year. Everything is going up. That's part of it.

5 CHAIR PORTER: So the County thing was
6 a one-time thing to help you pay off your debts?

7 MR. HUTSON: Yes, sir.

8 CHAIR PORTER: Any questions of Rex or
9 Don from the Board?

10 (Pause)

11 CHAIR PORTER: Charlie, you're the
12 Chairman, anything you would like to say?

13 MR. HUTSON: No.

14 MR. WIDENER: We have our story and
15 we're sticking to it.

16 MEMBER MOODY: Could I ask?

17 CHAIR PORTER: Sure.

18 MEMBER MOODY: Have you-all received
19 the recent \$150,000 equipment grant?

20 MR. HUTSON: No, ma'am. We know about
21 it. Rex has come by. Most of our equipment is not that old,
22 except with the UPS. Everything else is in pretty good shape.
23 We've got a logger that's only just a few years old; the
24 generator system: no problem.

25 MEMBER MOODY: Do you know about the

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1 provisions of that grant?

2 MR. HUTSON: Yes, ma'am. Rex has told
3 us about those.

4 MEMBER MOODY: I would think that
5 should help you some, if you look at some of the specifics of
6 that action that was taken by this board.

7 MR. HUTSON: Yes, ma'am, it will.

8 CHAIR PORTER: Other questions of the
9 Campbell County folks?

10 (Pause)

11 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. Thanks.

12 The Board is going into deliberations
13 now and will decide on the Campbell County request to raise
14 their rates from \$1.15 to \$1.50 on residential, and from \$2.50
15 to \$3 on business. What's the will of the Board?

16 MEMBER COBB: I so move.

17 CHAIR PORTER: I have a motion from
18 Ms. Cobb. Do I have a second?

19 MEMBER VICKERS: Second.

20 CHAIR PORTER: A second from
21 Mr. Vickers.

22 Any discussions or questions on the
23 rate increase request?

24 (Pause)

25 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in

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1 favor say "aye."

2 THE BOARD: Aye.

3 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

4 (Pause)

5 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carries.

6 Thank you for coming. Hopefully that
7 will help you a little bit, and maybe we can work out some
8 stuff here, shortly, that will help you a little more.

9 Gay, has your chairman got here yet?

10 MS. MURRELL: No.

11 CHAIR PORTER: One thing I'd like to
12 ask Lynn to do, we talked about it a little bit. After the
13 survey that was put to the districts -- and I'd like to say to
14 the districts that we appreciate the response that we got back
15 from the districts. I know the TACIR response was pretty low,
16 but Lynn's response on her questionnaire was -- we had a real
17 high return rate, and I want to say thank you to all the
18 districts who took the time to fill those out. You gave us a
19 lot of good data to be able to see the status of the
20 districts.

21 But we had six of those districts that
22 said they were in poor condition, but yet, when we offered
23 them help, they didn't want it. But I thought we might just
24 want to read those, for the record, the ones that turned in
25 and said that their districts were in poor condition. That

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1 way it will give us something for future benefit if we have to
2 deal with those folks down in the future -- the ones that
3 thought their districts were in poor shape. So, Lynn, why
4 don't you read those for the record.

5 MS. QUESTELL: Bledsoe, Hawkins,
6 Claiborne, Jackson, and Knox.

7 CHAIR PORTER: So, a lot of those
8 counties we heard from before. We had rate increases before.
9 And some of them, I guess, are already raised up to the max.
10 I know Jackson County is, and some of the others. So, I'm
11 afraid that they may show us that even though we raised some
12 of them to the max, that they still might not be in the best
13 of shape and that at some point down in the future --
14 hopefully this money that we've put out for the districts will
15 help them some. But at some point in time, we may have to
16 look at something else in order to help some of these that are
17 really small and have problems.

18 We've got three more items on the
19 agenda. Do you want to break now or do another one or two?

20 (Pause)

21 CHAIR PORTER: Do another one?

22 (Pause)

23 CHAIR PORTER: Okay.

24 The next item on the agenda is to
25 consider a request for increase to the emergency telephone

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1 charge by Bedford County. Do the Bedford County folks want to
2 come up?

3 (Pause)

4 CHAIR PORTER: If you will remember,
5 we had Bedford at our last meeting, and there were some
6 problems with the way -- it was looking -- that the County
7 would be reducing its funding to the District, so we asked
8 those folks to go back and work on that and come back. And,
9 Lynn, you want to say anything on that?

10 MS. QUESTELL: I do. I really want to
11 thank the people from Bedford County for their cooperation and
12 their hard work at trying to find a way to move this forward.
13 We really very much appreciate it.

14 I guess I also ought to say that at
15 the last meeting, the issue that was of concern to the Board
16 was the fact that one of the reasons that Bedford County
17 wanted the rate increase was to allow the County to reduce its
18 contribution to the District. Complicating this matter even
19 more was the fact that the County -- very generously -- was
20 paying for all the dispatching.

21 I think that there was discussion at
22 the last meeting that it would not be a bad thing for the
23 District to be contributing to some of the dispatching, but
24 the Board had adopted a policy that rate increases should not
25 be used to allow a reduction in contributions by the other

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1 governments that were contributing to the district, because
2 that really ended up kind of a backdoor-taxation situation
3 where the District money was actually funding what taxes had,
4 before.

5 So I think that Bedford has filed an
6 amended application, and I think that they have addressed that
7 issue as far as the reduction and the County's contribution.
8 The County has not reduced its contribution.

9 CHAIR PORTER: Just for the record,
10 Bedford -- will you-all state your name and titles for the
11 record.

12 MS. MATHIS: Cathy Mathis. I'm the
13 Director.

14 MR. McDONALD: Charles McDonald,
15 Chairman of the Board.

16 CHAIR PORTER: Just make sure you-all
17 get your mics up and get real close to them.

18 I guess, let me ask Staff, how do we
19 do -- we've heard all the information, I think, on Bedford
20 County before. Unless there's a request from one of the board
21 members to hear it again, I think the only issue was -- is
22 that the County's decrease in its contributions to the
23 District -- they could not decrease that. I think we have
24 that before us now, that that's not going to happen. So I
25 guess that would put us back to our deliberations then, unless

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1 you-all have anything you want to add before we --

2 MR. McDONALD: No, sir, I think not.

3 We submitted the revised application. I think Mr. Johnson has
4 reviewed it. So unless you-all have questions of us --

5 CHAIR PORTER: Any of the board
6 members have questions of the Bedford County folks?

7 (Pause)

8 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. So then the
9 Board will just go back into deliberations and consider the
10 Bedford County rate increase request.

11 What's the will of the Board?

12 MEMBER TAYLOR: I move for the
13 adoption.

14 CHAIR PORTER: I have a motion that we
15 approve, by Mr. Taylor.

16 MEMBER COBB: I'll second.

17 CHAIR PORTER: I have a second by
18 Ms. Cobb.

19 Is there discussion?

20 (Pause)

21 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in
22 favor say "aye."

23 THE BOARD: Aye.

24 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

25 (Pause)

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1 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carried.

2 We hated to bring you back for that,
3 but we had to clarify that item because that could have been a
4 real stickler for us in the future, and we appreciate you-all
5 coming back this morning. And good luck to you. We hope that
6 will help you.

7 MS. MATHIS: Thank you.

8 MR. McDONALD: Thank you very much.
9 We appreciate you-all's support.

10 CHAIR PORTER: The next item on the
11 agenda -- Gay, you're still not -- okay.

12 Next item is to consider a rate
13 increase request for Perry County. If the Perry County folks
14 are here, will you come forward?

15 (Pause)

16 CHAIR PORTER: Just have a seat at the
17 table. And both of you introduce yourselves for the record,
18 and make sure you get really into the mics so we can hear you.

19 MS. MERCER: Cynthia Mercer, I'm the
20 911 coordinator.

21 MR. COBLE: Good morning, I'm
22 Chris Coble. I'm a board member.

23 CHAIR PORTER: We're glad to have both
24 of you-all with us this morning.

25 Rex, you want to start us off?

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1 MR. HOLLAWAY: Okay, Mr. Chairman.

2 We did a site visit on May 11th. I
3 met with Cynthia Mercer the -- well, actually I call her the
4 director. She functions as a director, but actually she's a
5 coordinator, by title, I guess, as far as the Board is
6 concerned. But she does perform a lot of functions that a
7 typical director might provide. She also does all the
8 addressing and maintains the stand-alone database for their
9 ALI database system.

10 Their PSAP is located in Linden. It
11 answers and dispatches all the calls for the county. And I
12 might note that the building itself is owned by the bank. And
13 I guess they get one of those kind of \$1-a-year kind of
14 leases. Which is good news. The bad news is, if the bank
15 ever has to go into a backup mode, they might be crunched for
16 space because they have to share that building with the bank
17 employees. And it's not that big to begin with.

18 There were 3,455 residential and 720
19 business lines when I did the site visit. The local service
20 provider is an independent telephone company: TDS. They
21 have seen a drop in lines -- of landlines -- by approximately
22 320 lines -- or about 10 percent of their lines -- since
23 November of 2005. Their current surcharges, I believe, are
24 65 cents, residential; and \$2, business. They have two 911
25 trunks for landline, and two additional wireless trunks for

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1 VoIP and wireless calls. They do have two positions;
2 although, they only have staff to man one radio-dispatch
3 position. And they staff that with four full-time and three
4 part-time dispatchers.

5 The building, itself, is reasonably
6 secure. But there is no protection, really, for the
7 generator, which is an old generator at the back of the
8 building. And as you'll see in your listing of equipment,
9 they have a NAC telephone system and the Proctor ANI/ALI
10 controller, which is part of the InterAct system. They also
11 use the InterAct system software for GIS and for CAD.

12 The UPS is probably pretty old and
13 supplies, at best, 15 minutes at-the-desk type service. The
14 generator -- if you look at that photo on Page 4, it's -- it's
15 been there awhile, and it really could be upgraded for a
16 number of reasons, but not the least of which to provide more
17 backup power in the loss of commercial power. They have a
18 Mercon (phonetically) logging recorder, the Motorola Command
19 plus radio consoles, and they do have a Spectracom master plot
20 and a Zetron TV device for the hard of hearing.

21

22 There were three or four
23 recommendations there. One, obviously, is to replace the
24 generator. Again, as with other counties, we're telling them
25 all to develop written evacuation and backup plans; to install

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1 and operate their UPS system to provide more backup time in
2 the absence of a generator; and consider adding a second radio
3 console, so that they don't have a single point of failure.

4 Don.

5 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. The application
6 that they sent in has the information of: The Chairman is
7 Gary Rogers. They're a Tier 5 district. And they're here for
8 a rate increase of \$1.50 and \$3.

9 For the purpose of the rate increase:
10 They want to update their equipment. They want a new CAD
11 program, new radio consoles, dispatcher salaries and raises,
12 and the cost of relocating the 911 center.

13 As far as the amount of additional
14 revenue, they expect the additional revenue from the rate
15 increase to be \$43,883 in a year. Also, using the rate
16 increase for the purpose of equipment, they figured that the
17 new radio consoles -- for two of them -- to be about \$10,639.
18 As far as the current radio, it's about 12 to 14 years old,
19 and they're having problems now. The new CAD system would
20 cost about 3,500. And that program will allow the 911 center
21 to fax information to all the volunteer fire departments,
22 also, to the Perry County Rescue Squad, the ambulance service,
23 and the Sheriff's Department.

24 As far as the list of agencies they
25 have that's listed here: Perry County Sheriff's Department;

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1 ambulance service, Perry County Rescue Squad; Linden City and
2 Lobelville City Fire Department, and a list of other volunteer
3 fire departments. If they were -- if this rate increase did
4 not go through, they feel they would have to prioritize the
5 current equipment at the 911 center and make the necessary
6 replacements and update the oldest, most out-of-date equipment
7 first. The only updates that would be done is when the
8 equipment starts to fail or as an emergency situation arises.

9 As far as other actions taken to
10 increase their rates, this is the first time that they've went
11 to this situation.

12 They have -- like Rex said, they have
13 nine -- I mean, four. I'm sorry. Four 911 trunks and two
14 administrative lines. As far as debt and obligations, they
15 owe about \$16,000 to InterAct Public Safety for their CAD
16 system.

17 Of course, their services provider is
18 TDS -- is one of the main service providers. And BellSouth
19 has -- they have some of the calls through BellSouth. Their
20 total residential lines -- as of March '06 -- are 3,455.
21 Their business lines are 720.

22 In their written-up plan, which
23 includes the equipment, they feel the need to pay salaries for
24 dispatchers and apply raises, as I mentioned before. And also
25 that -- I guess they pretty much got notice from the electric

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1 company that they would -- the electric company is increasing
2 their rates by 10 percent, and also, some of their utilities
3 will have large increases. As far as the vehicle, they want
4 to see about getting a new vehicle for their mapping and
5 addressing. Right now they have a 1996 Jeep, which has about
6 197,718 miles on it.

7 As far as the five-year plan that they
8 sent in, as you can see, they start out -- with the rate
9 increase, it would be about 86,184; without the rate increase
10 for 2006 -- it should say 2005 -- 2007 -- I'm sorry. It would
11 be 41,750. They would have a change in net assets in 2007 of
12 90,296. That would continue all the way through, but it would
13 be decreasing through 2011 to 40,314.

14 Also, they sent in their inter-local
15 agreement they have with the County. I think it's the
16 Sheriff's Department and the volunteer fire department.

17 As far as the audit reports that they
18 have from the auditor, for the past five years they have -- as
19 far as in fiscal year 2005, there are repeat findings.
20 Basically, the segregation of duties. Because they are a
21 small district, there's not much that can be done for the
22 segregation of duties except for allowing the board members to
23 take more charge in what's going on in the operations.

24 They have overexpenditure of the
25 budget last year, of about \$1,888.

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1 As far as projections -- well, before
2 that, I have -- on Page 8 -- a comparative of the past five
3 audit reports, which show last year they had a deficit -- not
4 deficit, but a negative change of net assets of 681 -- which
5 is something that shows that they probably need to start
6 looking at that pretty hard.

7 As far as Table 4, on our projections,
8 I projected that the District will do some change in net
9 assets of \$234,642 in fiscal year 2007. And that's because I
10 also included in there the \$150,000 that we would probably
11 give them -- that they have the opportunity to get; and also,
12 the 40,000, the Rural Dispatcher Grant; and the 10,000 for the
13 GIS Maintenance Grant. So that's a total of 190,000.

14 So that would be, like I said,
15 234,000. At that rate, the District would continue to do some
16 change in net assets through fiscal year 2011. But if you go
17 and decrease at \$36,344, the ending net assets for fiscal year
18 2011 is projected to increase to \$626,744. And the ending
19 cash balance is projected at \$629,256.

20 And that's pretty much it.

21 CHAIR PORTER: Questions for Don or
22 Rex?

23 (Pause)

24 CHAIR PORTER: On the -- back in 2001,
25 I see the Director had a salary, but it's not showing after

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1 that. Do you not get paid for that now?

2 MS. MERCER: Well, there was a little
3 discrepancy in it. In the beginning they had a lady that
4 actually kind of started it up. She, basically, I think, paid
5 herself. I'm not a paid director.

6 CHAIR PORTER: You're a volunteer
7 director?

8 MS. MERCER: Well, I have a salary,
9 but it's not basically for the director. I'm also a --
10 slash -- dispatcher.

11 CHAIR PORTER: Oh, okay. So you're a
12 dispatcher plus director. You have two jobs, then?

13 MS. MERCER: Two or three.

14 CHAIR PORTER: On the separation of
15 duties, on your checks when you pay bills, who signs those
16 checks?

17 MS. MERCER: We have three of our
18 board members: the Chairman; Mr. Coble, here (indicating) --
19 he's the Secretary/Treasurer; and we have the Vice-Chairman.

20 CHAIR PORTER: That's actually who
21 signs the checks?

22 MS. MERCER: That's the only three
23 that sign the checks.

24 CHAIR PORTER: Why would they still be
25 getting written up for separation of duties if somebody else

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1 is signing the checks, Don? Do you know?

2 MR. JOHNSON: I don't really know.

3 They shouldn't -- do you bring the checks to the Board
4 meetings and everything?

5 MS. MERCER: I think it's because I
6 actually go to the post office, get the mail, and then have
7 one of the board members sign it. Then I'm usually the one
8 that takes and deposits it.

9 MR. JOHNSON: She's the only one
10 handling it from the beginning.

11 CHAIR PORTER: If they've changed --

12 Does your phone company do direct
13 deposit to your bank?

14 MS. MERCER: I've asked that phone
15 company, and I never got a response from them. That's the
16 only check that actually comes to our center that I have to
17 deposit.

18 CHAIR PORTER: If you did that, that
19 would fix that problem.

20 MS. MERCER: That would solve the
21 problem.

22 CHAIR PORTER: I thought that was odd,
23 that your board members are signing the checks. That should
24 have taken care of that audit finding for you.

25 Other questions of -- about the

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1 numbers?

2 MEMBER BILBREY: Yes.

3 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. Charles.

4 MEMBER BILBREY: This inter-local

5 agreement, the interesting -- well, there's several

6 interesting things; for one, it starts July the 1st, 2005, and

7 it goes through until June the 30th, 2006. It was signed on

8 4/18/06. In other words, a couple of months ago. So you

9 didn't have one up until then?

10 MS. MERCER: As I stated before, the

11 lady that started, basically had the initial beginning of all

12 of this. There was never an agreement between either of the

13 entities until we got this one.

14 MEMBER BILBREY: Are you going to

15 establish this same agreement for next year?

16 MS. MERCER: Yes, sir. There will be

17 one every year.

18 MEMBER BILBREY: And they are --

19 \$120,000.

20 MS. MERCER: The County does pay our

21 salaries for the dispatchers.

22 MEMBER BILBREY: So you then, in turn,

23 are reimbursing the County 40,000.

24 MS. MERCER: Yes, sir.

25 MEMBER BILBREY: Why is that?

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1 MS. MERCER: Because we don't -- our
2 district doesn't pay any -- we don't pay any of the employees.
3 It all comes from the County.

4 MEMBER BILBREY: It's just a pass
5 through.

6 MS. MERCER: It's like a reimbursement
7 back to the County.

8 MEMBER BILBREY: Okay. So the total
9 is -- okay.

10 Would you -- when you get this
11 finished and signed by everyone, would you send a copy of
12 that?

13 MS. MERCER: Of the agreement?

14 MEMBER BILBREY: The new inter-local
15 agreement.

16 MS. MERCER: Yes, sir.

17 CHAIR PORTER: Any other questions,
18 Charles?

19 MEMBER BILBREY: That's all.

20 CHAIR PORTER: Other questions of any
21 other board members?

22 (Pause)

23 CHAIR PORTER: This is the time that
24 if either one of you would like to say anything on behalf of
25 Perry County.

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1 MR. COBLE: We were talking about the
2 radio a while ago, and she informed me that we do have one.
3 So we're trying to balance out whether we're repairing it or
4 replacing it. And we're having a hard time finding some
5 parts. So "other equipment" is kind of a threat barrier.

6 I've been on the board right around a
7 year, and we've got some positive things going on. The County
8 Commission seems like they're getting -- are getting happier
9 with us. I think we're headed in the right direction. Any
10 kind of help from this right here will be most appreciated.

11 MS. MERCER: We've come a long ways
12 since the beginning in 2001, from pen and paper to what we
13 have now; to be as small as we are and not to be in
14 astronomical debt, per se.

15 CHAIR PORTER: I was worried about
16 you-all. I had a lot of conversations with the previous
17 director and board members down there trying to help when
18 you-all were first trying to come online.

19 MS. MERCER: I think Mr. Rex can
20 basically give us a good recommendation. We've come a long
21 way with some of the equipment that he sees in there now.

22 MEMBER BILBREY: Can I ask you another
23 question on this? How long have they been paying the
24 \$120,000?

25 MS. MERCER: Since -- our first budget

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1 with the County was \$126,000.

2 MEMBER BILBREY: When was that?

3 MS. MERCER: When we started.

4 November the 1st, 2001.

5 MEMBER BILBREY: How long have you
6 been getting that grant?

7 MS. MERCER: We have three years. The
8 past three years.

9 MEMBER BILBREY: I don't understand
10 why that is deducting there -- why wasn't that just --

11 CHAIR PORTER: I don't think they have
12 any employees, Charles. I think they're -- are your
13 dispatchers County employees?

14 MS. MERCER: We're considered County
15 employees.

16 CHAIR PORTER: County employees. So
17 the money has to come to the District first, and then they
18 turn around and give it to the County to pay the salaries.

19 MR. HOLLAWAY: Mr. Chairman, I might
20 add, too, while they are a very small PSAP and district,
21 they're very dedicated to answering their calls. It's one of
22 the first -- one of the few PSAPs I've seen where there's a
23 telephone in the bathroom.

24 (Laughter)

25 MR. HOLLAWAY: They do what it takes

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1 to get the calls.

2 MS. MERCER: I can speak from
3 experience. Just about the time you think something needs to
4 happen, then that's exactly when that phone is going to ring.
5 So I stressed strongly: Put us a telephone in here just in
6 case. And it is equipped where we can answer a 911 call, but
7 it's not interphased with our CAD system. You can answer a
8 911 call, but you won't get your information. But you won't
9 lose the call.

10 CHAIR PORTER: It's still a good
11 thought, though.

12 Any other questions from the board
13 members of the Perry County folks?

14 (Pause)

15 CHAIR PORTER: Okay.

16 MS. MERCER: One more thing. We feel
17 that if we get this rate increase: We are small, but we are
18 loud and proud.

19 CHAIR PORTER: That's correct. You've
20 come a long way.

21 MS. MERCER: A lot of that is due to
22 the TECB. Thanks.

23 CHAIR PORTER: We'll go to our
24 deliberations now. And the floor is open for motions or
25 discussion on Perry County's rate increase.

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1 MEMBER TAYLOR: Mr. Chairman, any
2 district that has a phone in their bathroom, I'm for a rate
3 increase.

4 (Laughter)

5 CHAIR PORTER: Are you making that a
6 motion, Mr. Taylor?

7 MEMBER TAYLOR: I so move.

8 CHAIR PORTER: Do I have a second?

9 MEMBER MOODY: Second.

10 CHAIR PORTER: Second by Ms. Moody
11 that we approve the rate increase request for Perry County.

12 Is there discussion?

13 MEMBER TAYLOR: I would just add one
14 thing and make sure that the District understands that the
15 grant program we've approved, some of the findings of Rex --
16 generator, et cetera -- the fence; the electrical work; the
17 generator itself: We'll pay for it. The same thing with the
18 UPS.

19 CHAIR PORTER: Yeah. That generator
20 worries me. I've seen a few of those scattered around the
21 state. That's one of the reasons we wanted to do this grant
22 program, so hopefully that will be replaced pretty soon.

23 MS. MERCER: I have contacted a
24 company and we are getting bids on the generator.

25 CHAIR PORTER: Good. Good.

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1 Got a motion and a second to approve

2 the rate increase request. Any other discussion?

3 (Pause)

4 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, all in

5 favor say "aye."

6 THE BOARD: Aye.

7 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

8 (Pause)

9 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carried.

10 We've got two more items on the

11 agenda, you-all want to take a quick break?

12 Okay, we'll take about a five- or

13 ten-minute break, and we'll come back and finish up.

14 (Break in the proceedings.)

15 CHAIR PORTER: I think our mayor from

16 Hawkins County has come in. Gay, you-all want to come up and

17 we'll hear from you.

18 (Pause)

19 CHAIR PORTER: Mayor, if you-all

20 would, just introduce yourself for the record again, and make

21 sure you get really into the mic. It's hard to hear.

22 MAYOR LEE: I am Crockett Lee, Mayor

23 of Hawkins County. I want to extend to you and the Board my

24 apologies for being a little bit late.

25 CHAIR PORTER: We understand traffic

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1 was bad this morning, and we all had some problems.

2 MS. MURRELL: Gay Murrell, Director of
3 Hawkins County 911. And I want to apologize for not being
4 here at that last meeting. And I do appreciate the card the
5 Board sent me. Thank you.

6 CHAIR PORTER: Sorry for you loss.

7 Are we going to hear from these folks,
8 as a report, I guess, basically?

9 Mayor or Gay, who's going to do the
10 actual talking?

11 MAYOR LEE: Let me start with the --
12 when I was here two months ago, I said I would name a board
13 within 30 to 60 days. There will be a prospective board
14 presented to the County Commission this coming Monday night.
15 The makeup of that board will be two county citizens; one
16 county commissioner; the Sheriff -- whoever that might be --
17 one medical person; one fire department person; one county
18 mayor; and when we get an EMA director, that person will be a
19 member.

20 CHAIR PORTER: So you're basically
21 replacing the whole board; is that right?

22 MAYOR LEE: One person that was on the
23 previous board remains. He's just been there a very short
24 period of time.

25 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. Gay, did you

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1 have anything you wanted to add?

2 MS. MURRELL: I do. You were talking
3 about the rate increase --

4 CHAIR PORTER: Get in the mic a little
5 more.

6 MS. MURRELL: -- and we chose not to
7 take the rate increase. And let me explain why. Which Lynn
8 knows why.

9 That is money that I've got to save
10 back just in case the County doesn't fund \$140,000. So I felt
11 that it would be better just not to take the rate increase at
12 this time and just kind have that back.

13 And also, Rex, when you were there the
14 other day, we were having a problem with that UPS -- remember
15 I told you we were losing?

16 What it was, was the electrician
17 didn't wire in our radio room into the UPS. When he came in I
18 said, "Is this room wired in?" He said, "Well, no." So
19 that's been corrected.

20 And the contract for audit has already
21 been sent into the Comptroller's office.

22 MAYOR LEE: I might add that the
23 \$140,000 County contribution is still in the prospective
24 budget.

25 CHAIR PORTER: Good. Good.

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1 Does that pretty well cover all the
2 issues that we had with them that we needed them to correct?

3 MS. QUESTELL: Yes, sir.

4 CHAIR PORTER: Is there any action
5 that the Board would need to take today that we haven't
6 already?

7 MS. QUESTELL: No, sir.

8 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. Any questions
9 from any of the board members of the Hawkins County folks?

10 (Pause)

11 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, we
12 appreciate you-all coming back down. And, Mayor, I know it's
13 tough in an election year and everything you've been going
14 through to try to have to deal with all of this. And we
15 appreciate the job that you've done in doing that.

16 And then, Gay, you've been great. And
17 we hope everything works out for you-all and things get better
18 up there. And if we can help you, in any way, well, you know
19 that all you have to do is contact Lynn and our folks, and
20 we'll be glad to help you in any way we can up there.

21 MAYOR LEE: We appreciate the
22 cooperation we've had with this board. Thank you very much.

23 CHAIR PORTER: Thank you, and have a
24 good day.

25 Our final item on the agenda is to

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1 consider a request for a rate increase from LaFollette ECD.

2 Are the LaFollette folks here? Would

3 you come up to the table?

4 (Pause)

5 CHAIR PORTER: Good morning. Would

6 you-all introduce yourselves for the record, each one of you,

7 please?

8 MS. ROGERS: Yes, thank you. I'm

9 Shirley Fox-Rogers. I'm the Chair of the Board. This is

10 Todd Overby (indicating), our director. And also we have with

11 us today our chief financial officer for the City of

12 LaFollette, Mr. Terry Sweat.

13 CHAIR PORTER: Glad to have you-all

14 folks with us. We'll handle yours just like we do with all

15 the others. We'll start out with our staff, and hear from

16 them. We'll then allow you to make any statements, let the

17 Board ask you any questions they might have, and then we'll go

18 into our deliberations.

19 Rex, you want to start out?

20 MR. HOLLAWAY: Okay. A site visit was

21 conducted by me. On May the 3rd, I met with Todd Overby, he's

22 a part-time director of the LaFollette City ECD. And he

23 helped me gather information I needed for the technical part

24 in the report.

25 LaFollette is located in Campbell

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1 County. It has approximately, I believe, one-fourth of the
2 County's population of -- 39,850. Calls outside of LaFollette
3 but within Campbell County are routed to the Campbell County
4 Dispatch Center. The LaFollette PSAP answers and dispatches
5 all 911 and seven-digit calls for LaFollette police and fire.
6 However, they do transfer EMS calls to the Campbell County
7 PSAP.

8 They have 2,477 residential and
9 951 business lines they collect revenue off of from BellSouth.
10 They have two 911 landline trunks that terminate on a
11 Motorola Centralink system. Their other calls -- their
12 seven-digit lines are actually on a totally different system:
13 a three-part system utilized by the police departments and the
14 Justice Center.

15 They employ two part-time addressing
16 coordinators. And they also do the updates to the MSAG for
17 the telephone company. They have two positions -- although
18 only one is radio-dispatched equipped. They have one
19 part-time and five full-time dispatchers, and so they are
20 able to keep one position manned 24/7.

21 The building is a very secure -- I'd
22 reasonably secure building with surveillance cameras and
23 restricted access to the dispatch center. So I feel
24 comfortable with the security of the facility.

25 As far as the individual systems, as I

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1 mentioned, they use the Motorola Centralink, which is several
2 years old and has been manufacturer discontinued. Although --
3 at the time of my site visit, they were in the process of
4 replacing the system with a CML/Plant system with a cost of
5 about \$190,000.

6 The GIS system is provided by
7 Geoconex. They use a software company called M&M to develop
8 custom software for a CAD system. They have a Power Aclare
9 (phonetically) UPS tower-type of battery backup system. And
10 they utilize two Olympian diesel generators. So they have a
11 power and a backup generator. They're both 40-kilowatt
12 systems and have about a 36-hour fuel reserve on premise
13 there.

14 They record calls on a Dictaphone
15 Freedom logger recorder. And they use an interesting radio
16 console. It's the first one I've run across. It's made by a
17 company called Vega. And so it's -- they've had it -- well,
18 I'm not even sure anybody knows how long they've had it, but
19 it's been there awhile.

20 MR. OVERBAY: Well, it's not been
21 there that long. It's been about five, six years. I didn't
22 approve it. I didn't approve of it.

23 MR. HOLLAWAY: And really, the
24 suggestions we have for them were to certainly to look at
25 replacing their radio controllers -- excuse me, their

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1 CentraLink 911 controller, which they obviously are in the
2 process of doing, I believe; again, develop some evacuation
3 and backup plans, which we're going to help them with; and do
4 some design in the dispatch center itself. It's not very
5 functional. It's just a basic desk with a telephone sitting
6 there. So it's not very functional. And then look at the
7 cost of expanding -- either expanding the system or purchasing
8 a new system so they have the radio console operation at the
9 dispatch center.

10 Don.

11 MR. JOHNSON: Okay. Looking at their
12 rate increase application that they sent in, as you know, the
13 Chairman is Shirley Fox-Rogers. The Director is Todd Overby.

14 As far as the city, the population --
15 like Rex said -- is about 7,577. They are a Tier 5 district,
16 and they're requesting a rate increase of \$1.50 for
17 residential and \$3 for business.

18 As far as the additional rate
19 increase, they would expect for it to increase their revenue
20 about 36,000, if they were to get it. The additional revenue
21 would be used to enhance their PSAP equipment, to continue to
22 fund increasing maintenance costs for 911 equipment, and to
23 restore some reserves.

24 Also with the rate increase, equipment
25 that they plan to purchase would be approximately \$82,000 for

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1 the GIS mapping equipment and get into a \$40,000 loan with a
2 local financial institution to help fund this equipment also.
3 And they're looking at paying for it over a four-year period,
4 and the equipment they expect to depreciate in over seven
5 years.

6 On the next page you see the list of
7 agencies that they dispatch to. Their employees are City
8 employees for the City of LaFollette. And they want to
9 increase with an additional dispatcher. Right now they have
10 four full-time dispatchers and one supervisor dispatcher, and
11 they want to increase to one more.

12 If they were rejected with this rate
13 increase, they feel like they would purchase only basic
14 equipment, with no enhancements; less updates to existing
15 equipment; slower response time to repairs; and use of
16 long-term borrowing of funding funds, rather than short-term,
17 which lowers the payment but costs more in the end with
18 interest expenses.

19 As far as outstanding debt, they have
20 a lease purchase of about \$49,988. They expect to pay it back
21 in 36 months. They applied for it back in October of '04.
22 They have a notes payable of \$40,000, dated 8/19/05, and it's
23 a 48-month. They have two 911 lines and six administrative
24 lines. On the next page you see their monthly revenue that
25 they receive from residential and commercial.

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1 As far as their service provider:
2 Their service provider is BellSouth. And their five-year
3 plan: They estimate that their landline telephone charges
4 will decrease by 2 percent a year. The wireless telephone
5 revenue would increase by 2 percent a year. And the salaries
6 expense will increase by 3 percent a year. Also, their
7 operating expenses will increase by 5 percent a year.

8 In 2007, the District said that they
9 will begin to incur about 12,000 to 15,000 yearly in GIS
10 maintenance cost. In about three to four years they expect
11 they would need a digital voice recorder, at a cost of about
12 \$35,000. In two years they expect to purchase a power
13 generator for the equipment room at the tower site located at
14 Rosehill, in LaFollette, at a cost of \$25,000.

15 In the fiscal year 2006/2007 budget:
16 The District expects to upgrade the PSAP and replace the radio
17 console at a cost of about 190,000 to \$225,000. And they
18 would like to also continue to receive the Dispatcher Grant
19 and apply for the \$190,000 the TECB offers.

20 Looking at their five-year projection,
21 as you can see, in fiscal year 2006/2007, the rate increase
22 would increase to 78,448 -- I mean -445 -- with the rate
23 increase, and 42,000 without the rate increase. And this
24 would have a net change in assets of 169,347. That
25 increase -- I'll take that back.

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1 After fiscal year 2007 their net
2 change will start to decrease with their rate increase, all
3 this way through 2011. And in fiscal year 2008 it would
4 decrease to a negative 19,591. And it would continue to
5 decrease through fiscal year 2011 to 23,601.

6 As far as their audit reports:
7 The auditor did not list any audit findings. Also, they
8 include -- combine their audit report with the City's audit
9 reports. So I told them, in the future -- I suggested in the
10 future that they get a separate audit report that would allow
11 us to be able to evaluate them a lot closer. So as of
12 yesterday, I did hear from County Audit that they did send in
13 a contract to audit -- to issue a separate report.

14 As far as the ECB Staff Analysis --
15 well, first of all, looking at Table of -- Table 2, you see
16 the comparatives, that the District was doing pretty good in
17 2001, and they start to decline. And in 2005, they have a
18 negative net change in assets of 5,877. They had cash and
19 cash equivalents of the \$21,082.

20 In the ECB Staff Analysis with the
21 rate increase of \$1.50 and \$3 for a five-year projection using
22 the District's expenditures, the District will retain a
23 positive change of net assets of \$138,752 in fiscal year 2007.
24 And at this rate, the District -- it should be a negative
25 change in net assets of \$19,382 in fiscal year 2008. And it

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1 will continue through fiscal year 2011 in the amount of a
2 negative 29,418. The ending net assets for fiscal year 2011
3 is a projected increase of 117,774. And then the cash balance
4 at that time would be about 77,890.

5 And that's pretty much all I have.

6 CHAIR PORTER: Questions of Don or Rex
7 from the board members?

8 (Pause)

9 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none,
10 Ms. Rogers, would you-all -- as far as LaFollette, would
11 you-all like to make some statements?

12 MS. ROGERS: Well, I don't know if the
13 Board -- oh, I apologize. I usually speak so loudly -- I wear
14 a hearing aid, so most of the time I blast everybody out of
15 the room when I speak. So I apologize.

16 We've been -- as you know, we've been
17 in existence since December 17, 1996. And except for the past
18 year and a half, I've chaired the board since that day. And
19 we recently had a resignation from the Chair of the board and
20 just in the last two weeks I have assumed the chairmanship
21 again. So I can speak for the past years better than I can
22 speak for this last year and a half.

23 But we've always had a positive
24 attitude and a positive board, and this is the first time --
25 as you very well know -- that we've ever come before this

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1 board asking for anything. We've always prided ourselves in
2 keeping a positive cash flow. And we've been able to fund
3 ourselves and to provide excellent service for the City of
4 LaFollette.

5 Years ago when the City first pulled
6 away from the County, none of us were -- really, this board
7 was appointed by the Council at that time. I serve on the
8 Council. I'm a city council member now -- and have been for
9 eight years -- but I wasn't at that time. And this was
10 decided by referendum. It wasn't just a City Council
11 decision. It was decided by the voters. And I'm not sure all
12 of us agreed with it at the time, but when the voters made the
13 decision, we've just lived with it from that moment and done
14 the very best we could. And we feel like we provided an
15 excellent service to the citizens of LaFollette.

16 I think the feeling at that time was
17 that the County could not provide the type of service that the
18 City -- they did not have the funding. We're a rural county.
19 I don't know how many of you know -- I know Ms. Wanda knows
20 Campbell County, and those of you who have visited know how
21 very rural we are. There's not -- there's almost zero
22 industry. We depend on tourism. There's not a lot of dollars
23 there. And I think the people in LaFollette decided that
24 there just weren't enough dollars in the County to provide the
25 level of services that the citizens of LaFollette expected.

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1 And I think probably that was the idea behind the referendum.

2 And so we just -- we've tried to
3 maintain a level of service. And I feel like the Director,
4 and also the Chief Financial Officer -- Mr. Sweat and
5 Mr. Overby -- will agree with that. And I'm very proud of the
6 level of service we've provided.

7 We'll be happy to -- I know I've made
8 a rambling statement, Mr. Porter -- is that your last name?

9 CHAIR PORTER: It is.

10 MS. ROGERS: Fine. I've made a
11 rambling statement. But we'll be happy to cooperate. We have
12 cooperated down through the years. And I'll be happy to
13 answer any type of questions that any of you might have. And
14 Mr. Overby has been a wonderful, wonderful director for us.
15 And, of course, Mr. Sweat can answer any type of financial
16 question that you might have.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIR PORTER: Board members, do you
19 have questions of the LaFollette folks?

20 MEMBER MOODY: Could I ask a question?
21 The referendum -- when it was placed on the ballot was the
22 vote taken only in the city, or was it taken both in the city
23 and Campbell County?

24 MS. ROGERS: It was a city ballot,
25 Ms. Wanda.

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1 MEMBER MOODY: Only the city.

2 MS. ROGERS: Yes, ma'am.

3 MEMBER MOODY: And that was done in
4 '96?

5 MS. ROGERS: Yes, ma'am.

6 MEMBER MOODY: Do you feel there's any
7 change in the mood of people to go back and have a central
8 district within the county at this time?

9 MS. ROGERS: Ms. Wanda, I really
10 don't. I really don't. It's my feeling, personally, that a
11 unified system would work better. That's my feeling. But as
12 far as the atmosphere of the city as a whole -- and I do serve
13 on City Council, I'll reiterate that. No, ma'am, I really
14 don't.

15 MEMBER BILBREY: You say you have
16 excellent service right now?

17 MS. ROGERS: Yes, sir.

18 MEMBER BILBREY: How about Campbell
19 County --

20 CHAIR PORTER: We just heard from
21 them, Charles. We just gave them a rate increase request.

22 MEMBER BILBREY: I know. But is the
23 service out there, is it good service, or are there
24 complaints, or what?

25 CHAIR PORTER: I think the Director is

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1 still here, if we want to hear from him.

2 MEMBER BILBREY: I think we ought to.

3 CHAIR PORTER: You want to come up,

4 Charlie?

5 (Pause)

6 CHAIR PORTER: Why don't you just go

7 up to the podium over there.

8 MEMBER BILBREY: I guess, you want to

9 identify yourself again?

10 MR. HUTSON: Charles Hutson, Campbell

11 County 911.

12 MEMBER BILBREY: I guess, what kind of

13 a service -- this is a pointed question. What kind of service

14 do you provide up in Campbell County? Are there any

15 complaints or what?

16 MR. HUTSON: We do dispatch for EMS;

17 law enforcement; fire department. No major complaints; you

18 know, things you hear at any 911 center.

19 MEMBER BILBREY: So you're providing

20 excellent service. Both of you are. So we have two PSAPs

21 sitting that close together --

22 MR. HUTSON: Probably within five

23 blocks of each other.

24 MEMBER BILBREY: Doing the same thing.

25 From what I can understand, aren't they in sort of a dangerous

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1 situation with the railroad and all that? So, again, are
2 either one of you planning on moving? Or have you thought of
3 that?

4 MR. HUTSON: That's what we were
5 talking about earlier when we were at the table. We're in
6 negotiations now with getting some property that will get us
7 away from the railroad tracks and away from the major highway.

8 MEMBER BILBREY: This is how far away?

9 MR. HUTSON: That I really don't know.
10 We're still talking with the people that own the property. We
11 thought that we was going to be able to take care of it a
12 couple of weeks ago back, but due to some problems, we weren't
13 able to. We couldn't get together the second time for a
14 meeting.

15 MS. QUESTELL: Is the property located
16 away from the train track and the highway, that you're
17 discussing?

18 MR. HUTSON: Yes.

19 MEMBER BILBREY: Do you think you're
20 going to get the property?

21 MR. HUTSON: Pretty sure. Pretty
22 confident.

23 MEMBER BILBREY: How far out of the
24 city is the property? Or is it in the city, or where is it?

25 MR. HUTSON: It's located within the

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1 city.

2 MEMBER BILBREY: Within the city.

3 Is it a large piece of property?

4 MR. HUTSON: About 5 acres.

5 MEMBER BILBREY: It seems sort of
6 strange. We've got two different -- is it large enough, and
7 is there a possibility of a combination of the two districts
8 to combine and come up with all the functions?

9 MR. HUTSON: I'm the Director.
10 You-all need to get with the board members to talk that over.

11 CHAIR PORTER: And that may be
12 something -- let me say something first, before we get into
13 this. We're asking questions of the LaFollette folks right
14 now, but do we want to hold this until we get through our
15 deliberations, or do you-all want to go ahead and hear this
16 now?

17 MEMBER COBB: I think it bears on what
18 we decide for LaFollette. And I think it is very important.

19 CHAIR PORTER: So it's okay, then, to
20 go ahead and hear now?

21 (Pause)

22 CHAIR PORTER: Okay.

23 MR. WIDENER: I'm the Chairman of the
24 911 Board. I've been on it since it started. We have looked
25 at 5 acres of land inside the city of LaFollette. And as a

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1 board, we voted last week to try to talk to the City of
2 LaFollette -- that was part of our last meeting, was to see if
3 we can do this.

4 CHAIR PORTER: Is the City of
5 LaFollette folks -- do you think they would be interested in
6 talking to the Campbell County folks, just to talk and see if
7 something can be worked out on this?

8 MS. ROGERS: As I said before, we're a
9 small county and we're all friends. I couldn't give a
10 positive answer to that. It would have to be up to the City
11 and to the Board. I can't speak for my board, nor can I speak
12 for the Mayor and the City Council. But some of the best
13 friends I've ever had in my life are sitting back here. And
14 I'm agreeable to sitting down and talking. I think any
15 problem can be solved at a table with a glass of iced tea.

16 CHAIR PORTER: If it's sweet tea.

17 (Laughter)

18 MS. ROGERS: Absolutely; sweet tea,
19 preferably with an orange slice.

20 John Bond and I, we say we share
21 children. And that sounds awful, but he's as close to my
22 daughter, and I'm as close to his children -- you would think
23 we were brother and sister. But there's not many people in
24 this world that I think more of than I do John Bond.

25 And, yes, for my part, I'm perfectly

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1 willing to sit down at a table and discuss this. I was
2 unaware of this property. And as I said before, before this
3 board was formed, before the referendum -- and Mr. Overby has
4 said all long that a unified system is something that he
5 thought about. But as far as a decision, certainly all of you
6 are intelligent people, and you know I can't commit to a
7 decision like that.

8 CHAIR PORTER: We understand that.

9 MS. ROGERS: We're here today asking
10 for the same thing that the County asked for. And I'd
11 appreciate it if you would let us work this out within our
12 county and our city and you will address our rate increase
13 request. I'd really appreciate that. And let us work out the
14 semantics of consolidation.

15 I'm very excited to think that the
16 County has 5 acres within the City of LaFollette. That's very
17 exciting to me.

18 CHAIR PORTER: You might be able to
19 fix a whole lot of problems for both of the PSAPs by going
20 together on some of that stuff. That does sound exciting.

21 Also, just to throw it out, you know,
22 there's a lot of money sitting -- we offer the \$300,000 to
23 districts, if you wanted to look at consolidating. Boy, that
24 could build a nice building that you could have paid for, for
25 free, if that's something that you-all would look at.

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1 MS. ROGERS: Keep offering that money.

2 CHAIR PORTER: Actually, when you look
3 at the 190- -- or 150- on each side, the 300,000 -- that would
4 be \$600,000 to go towards new equipment and a building and
5 whatever you needed. That's a whole lot of money. You might
6 not get that opportunity again.

7 MS. ROGERS: It's a lot to think
8 about. And as I said, we're a small community. We're rural,
9 and we're impoverished. And it's just -- we just don't have a
10 lot of resources to pull from. And any time we can work
11 together, it's a good situation for everybody concerned.

12 MEMBER TAYLOR: Mr. Chairman, I would
13 just like to add one more thing. The Board has paid for
14 mediation in the past.

15 MS. ROGERS: Oh, sir, I appreciate
16 that. And my daughter does it for a living. So I'm very
17 familiar with mediation.

18 CHAIR PORTER: If that would help.

19 MS. ROGERS: It is good to know. We
20 weren't aware of that. This board has resources that we were
21 totally unaware of. We do appreciate that. We appreciate
22 the courtesy that you've extended to us, Mr. Johnson,
23 Mr. Hollaway, and certainly Ms. Questell -- I have a problem
24 with that last name. I want to say it through my nose. And I
25 hope she isn't insulted. And Ms. Moody, I've known through

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1 Mary Lou Horner for many, many years. I hope she won't hold
2 that against me. I better take that back.

3 But we do appreciate the courtesy
4 you've shown to us. Just hearing us this morning is a
5 wonderful courtesy to us. Thank you so much.

6 CHAIR PORTER: Any other questions of
7 the board members?

8 MR. JOHNSON: Mr. Chairman?

9 CHAIR PORTER: Yeah, Don.

10 MR. JOHNSON: I do want to add that
11 not only 600,000 would be going toward them, but all the
12 grants would double. Anything that we offer, pretty much --
13 unless it's stipulated -- it would double.

14 MS. ROGER: I beg your pardon,
15 Mr. Johnson.

16 MR. JOHNSON: I was telling
17 Mr. Chairman that all of the grants that we offer, like the
18 \$10,000 GIS Maintenance Grant or the \$30,000 Dispatcher Grant,
19 that would double from 10- to 20,000. And Dispatcher from
20 30- to 60,000.

21 MS. ROGERS: Are you listening, John?

22 CHAIR PORTER: Other questions from
23 the board members.

24 (Pause)

25 CHAIR PORTER: Thanks, folks.

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1 MS. ROGERS: Thank you.

2 MR. OVERBY: I would like to say, we
3 do have a phone in our restroom.

4 MS. ROGERS: I forgot that, too.

5 CHAIR PORTER: I guarantee you, in the
6 next two weeks, his county will, too.

7 MR. OVERBY: I'll address that real
8 quick. When we first put it in, I took a lot of slack over
9 that. Because we only have one dispatcher, most of the time.
10 And I took a lot of heat over it. But we also have got better
11 employees because of it.

12 We actually had to release an employee
13 because of sleeping on the job. And he used the excuse that
14 he was in the bathroom when the phone rang. So I've got it
15 set up to where they can answer the phone in the restroom, and
16 they can also take that phone -- it has a 30-foot cord. They
17 can transfer that call to their center.

18 I took a lot of heat over that; that's
19 the reason I wanted to mention it.

20 (Laughter)

21 MR. HOLLAWAY: Mr. Chairman, I didn't
22 intentionally leave that out; I just didn't go to the restroom
23 while I was there.

24 (Laughter)

25 CHAIR PORTER: Okay. Thanks, folks.

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1 The Board will now go into its
2 deliberations on LaFollette. You also have a memo in your
3 packet from Staff addressing the LaFollette issue, and you
4 also have -- we also have, at the end, that Staff is
5 recommending -- okay, forget I said that, then.

6 Okay. The floor is open for motions
7 or discussion on the LaFollette issue.

8 MEMBER TAYLOR: In the interest of
9 consistency, another district with a bathroom telephone, I
10 move we approve the rate increase.

11 CHAIR PORTER: Do I have a second?

12 BOARD MEMBER: Second.

13 CHAIR PORTER: Have a motion and
14 second that we approve the rate increase. Questions or
15 discussion?

16 MEMBER MOODY: I was just going to ask
17 this question: If this rate increase were not approved, does
18 that mean that we would have one rate inside the corporate
19 limits of LaFollette and then another rate in the outside
20 county? I think that's pretty clear cut.

21 CHAIR PORTER: Well, and -- any other
22 discussion before I say anything?

23 (Pause)

24 CHAIR PORTER: I think most of the
25 folks know how I feel about districts being -- having two

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1 districts inside the county. It's nothing personal towards
2 LaFollette or Campbell or any of the other six or seven that
3 we've got across the state. I don't think it makes much sense
4 to have two 911 districts in one county.

5 I think it's -- you know, if you want
6 to have two or three PSAPs and they all fall under the same
7 911 district, that's a local decision. But I think there's a
8 lot of duplication going on there. And I think the
9 legislature thought the same thing when they set up this board
10 and passed the law that stopped ECDs from being able to pull
11 out and break from their districts.

12 I think that these two entities have a
13 perfect situation here that they may not have again, to
14 combine and go in one district. And I'll be honest with you,
15 I hate to see LaFollette's rate increase pass until we can see
16 if those folks could work out something; that they might be
17 able to combine. And they can keep both of their dispatching
18 separate, if they wanted to, but at least get their district
19 back together under one so they can operate. I just can't see
20 that that would be a good situation, having two 911 districts.

21 And we've got one of them as a
22 distressed -- the County is distressed because they're split.
23 And now the City is asking for a rate increase request.
24 They're becoming distressed. They're going in the hole. So
25 it just seems like it would make sense to put those two

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1 together.

2 I just wouldn't feel good today not
3 mentioning that for the record and putting my two-cents' worth
4 in. The Board can still vote however it wants to. But I
5 think we're missing a golden opportunity to try to work with
6 these folks and get these two districts back together while
7 the money is available.

8 MEMBER BILBREY: We don't want to seem
9 like we're holding anything hostage. That is one thing. But
10 why can't we provide the mediator and hurry this process up --
11 or try to -- and get something solved here.

12 MS. QUESTELL: Mr. Bilbrey, as a
13 trained mediator, I would like to say that mediation cannot
14 work -- it is not mediation unless you have willing parties on
15 both sides. And we do not know if there are willing parties
16 on both sides, at this point. You can't have mediation unless
17 both parties are willing to talk. There's no such thing as
18 forced mediation.

19 MEMBER BILBREY: The other thing is,
20 from what I hear, I think they've got potential: They're
21 willing to talk.

22 CHAIR PORTER: I think one thing that
23 would make them a lot more willing to talk is if neither one
24 of them, the rate increases were passed.

25 MEMBER BILBREY: That's it. We've

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1 already passed one.

2 CHAIR PORTER: I think that makes them
3 more willing. Hearing from Ms. Rogers, though, I think
4 there's a willingness that may have not been there in the past
5 that could be there now. But I think when both of them are
6 sitting there and financially distressed and needing the
7 money, I think that makes both work together a little better.

8 I'm just afraid with this rate
9 increase, if both of them go, that that will be the end of it
10 and there won't be any working together after both of them are
11 passed. But that's just my two-cents.

12 MS. QUESTELL: May I ask a question of
13 Campbell County?

14 When I was there for the hearing,
15 you-all mentioned that you were going to bring the issue of
16 mediation to your board. Did you do that?

17 MR. HUTSON: Yes, ma'am, we did. And
18 we got 100-percent approval.

19 MS. QUESTELL: That you are willing.

20 MR. HUTSON: Yes, ma'am.

21 MS. QUESTELL: You are unanimously
22 willing -- your district is -- to engage in mediation? That
23 is a given fact?

24 MR. HUTSON: Yes, ma'am.

25 CHAIR PORTER: Other discussion?

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1 MEMBER MOODY: I certainly agree that
2 one district in one county is best for all concerned, both
3 from a standpoint of service delivery as well as organization
4 and financing. I guess the one thing that concerns me a
5 little bit of the LaFollette situation is the fact that the
6 voters in a referendum made that decision. And that does
7 concern me. Which to me says that I think the leadership
8 within LaFollette City government is going to have to be in a
9 willing spirit to participate in some kind of mediation.

10 CHAIR PORTER: Other discussion?

11 (Pause)

12 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none; we have a
13 motion to approve the LaFollette rate increase request. All
14 in favor say "aye."

15 THE BOARD: Aye.

16 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed.

17 (Pause)

18 CHAIR PORTER: Motion carried.

19 MS. QUESTELL: Can I make a
20 suggestion? I mean, given that vote, would it be possible to
21 ask the individuals of LaFollette to come back at the next
22 meeting and report on their progress as far as their decision
23 to mediate the issue or not?

24 CHAIR PORTER: Would you-all be wiling
25 to do that, Ms. Rogers?

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1 MS. ROGERS: Would you repeat the
2 request?

3 CHAIR PORTER: We'd like, at our
4 next board meeting -- which will either be in August or
5 September -- have you -- or someone from LaFollette -- come
6 back and report to us as to the willingness of LaFollette to
7 meet with Campbell and talk about this, and if you need
8 mediation, or whatever, to do that, and report back to us.

9 MS. ROGERS: Absolutely.

10 MEMBER MOODY: Can I say one thing
11 further?

12 If you find the people of LaFollette
13 are willing to participate in mediation, why wait until the
14 next board meeting? Why not contact Lynn and go ahead and set
15 up the mediation process and get it underway, and then report
16 back the progress.

17 MS. ROGER: Ms. Wanda, I will take
18 this to my board at the next meeting. The next meeting is the
19 29th. And I will take it to the Board on the 29th. And I
20 will also take it to the City Council at the next workshop.
21 So I will move with this very quickly. And we may or may not
22 need mediation.

23 CHAIR PORTER: I was going to say,
24 you-all may be able to work it out yourselves without having
25 to have a mediator.

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1 MS. ROGERS: As I said, we're very
2 friendly. This is not an adversarial situation that we're
3 dealing with. If we need a mediator, we'll certainly contact
4 you. And we will keep you apprised of everything that's going
5 on. And I will reiterate: I will take this, with all haste,
6 to my board, and also to the City Council.

7 CHAIR PORTER: Thank you, Ms. Rogers.
8 Appreciate it.

9 MS. ROGERS: Thank you so much. And
10 thank you for approving the rate increase. I feel you did the
11 right thing. Because I feel if you would not have approved
12 it, that would have sent a negative message. I can move with
13 this in a positive way. Thank you.

14 CHAIR PORTER: I hope so. Thank you.

15 You know, June is supposed to be a fun
16 part of the year -- when you start summer and start vacations
17 and thinking good things. But for the Board, sometimes June
18 can be a bad month. For us, we're going to lose two of our
19 board members that have served -- Mr. Vickers has served for
20 four years with us, and Ms. Wanda Moody, who has served since
21 the inception of this board, who I've had the pleasure to
22 serve with from the start. And it's a sad day for me -- and
23 I'm sure it is for the other board members -- that we're
24 losing these two members. They have served faithfully and
25 have made a great amount of progress, and their input has been

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1 great over the years with what we've done.

2 Ms. Moody and I were talking as we
3 were riding the elevator today, you know, that we basically
4 started out from scratch on this board -- a newly created
5 board -- and where we've come from, over the past several
6 years. I think it's amazing as to what they have been doing
7 with this board. And we wanted to get each one of you a
8 plaque to show you our appreciation -- the State's
9 appreciation for your leadership and your participation in
10 this board. And I'm going to terribly miss both of you.

11 I look back over the years and I think
12 of some of the things that we have done. Ms. Wanda, I know a
13 lot of things wouldn't have happened if it hadn't been for you
14 and a lot of your expertise and knowledge in state government
15 to help get us through some of the trying times that we've
16 had.

17 Johnny, you've represented the wisdom
18 of the state very well, and we appreciate everything that
19 you've done, also.

20 I have plaques for both of you-all.
21 If you'll both come up. And I'll read one of them. It says,
22 "The people of the State of Tennessee express the great
23 appreciation of Wanda Moody -- and Johnny Vickers -- for the
24 leadership, dedication, and service as a member of the
25 Tennessee Emergency Communications Board."

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1 Yours is 1998 through 2006. Johnny,
2 yours is 2002 through 2006. Congratulations. We want to tell
3 you how much we appreciate you and how much we're going to
4 miss you.

5 Johnny, would you come back and let's
6 take a picture.

7 I'll give you both an opportunity to
8 say something. Ms. Wanda, you want to go first.

9 MEMBER MOODY: I would just simply say
10 that it's certainly been a pleasure to be a part of this board
11 and to also think back over the eight years we have worked
12 together and tried to develop programs and trying to look at
13 the implementation of the state statute. It's been a fun
14 journey. I've certainly enjoyed it. I've learned a lot.

15 You have a great board. It's
16 wonderful to work with. And I can't say enough about the
17 staff that this board has put together over the years. You
18 have a great staff, who I think is focused solely on trying to
19 develop a good 911 system across the state. And some folks
20 might think that they're adversarial at times; but on the
21 other hand, as I've observed during this time, they certainly
22 have been an advocate and willing to always help, and they're
23 user friendly.

24 And for this, I thank you. And best
25 wishes.

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1 MR. VICKERS: Pretty much, she sums it
2 up for all of us. We've come a long way in West Tennessee
3 from where we were. Without the support and the leadership of
4 the Board and with the staff, we wouldn't be where we are. I
5 really appreciate it, and I know our local board does. And I
6 feel like everybody here feels the same way: We're on the
7 right road and it needs to continue going.

8 CHAIR PORTER: Let's give them a round
9 of applause.

10 (Applause)

11 CHAIR PORTER: Don't forget about us,
12 now. We'll be calling on you to help with your past and your
13 expertise that you can provide. We appreciate everything
14 you've done.

15 We need to look at our next board
16 meeting. Lynn, do you think there's a chance we'll have
17 enough items to have an August meeting or not?

18 MS. QUESTELL: Why don't we talk about
19 getting the feasibilities done -- the feasibility study done.
20 I'd like that to be done so the Board could make decisions
21 about it at the next meeting.

22 CHAIR PORTER: So, do you want to move
23 it out to September?

24 MS. QUESTELL: That would be my
25 preference, yes.

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1 CHAIR PORTER: We have September 23rd
2 and 28, are the two dates we have reserved for the room.

3 MEMBER COBB: September 23 is a
4 Saturday.

5 CHAIR PORTER: Did I write it down
6 wrong? The 13th and 28th.

7 So the 13th being a Wednesday, the
8 28th being a Thursday. Does anybody have a preference on
9 either one?

10 MEMBER COBB: I prefer the 28th.

11 CHAIR PORTER: You prefer the 28th.

12 Anybody else have a yea or nay?

13 (Pause)

14 CHAIR PORTER: We'll meet at 9:00 on
15 September the 28th then.

16 Any other business that needs to come
17 before the ECB?

18 (Pause)

19 CHAIR PORTER: Hearing none, I'll
20 accept a motion to adjourn.

21 MEMBER COBB: So moved.

22 CHAIR PORTER: Do I have a second?

23 MEMBER TAYLOR: Second.

24 CHAIR PORTER: All in favor say "aye."

25 THE BOARD: Aye.

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1 CHAIR PORTER: All opposed, like sign.

2 (Pause)

3 CHAIR PORTER: Meeting is adjourned.

4 (End of the proceedings.)

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1 ERRATA PAGE

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19 I, _____, have read the

20 foregoing transcript and hereby affix my signature that same is

21 true and correct, except as noted above.

22

23

24 _____

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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2

3 STATE OF TENNESSEE)
4 COUNTY OF SUMNER)

5 I, Denise Harwood-Stacy, court reporter and

6 notary public in and for the State of Tennessee,

7 DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing transcript

8 of the proceedings were taken at the time and place set forth

9 in the caption thereof; that the proceedings were

10 stenographically reported by me in machine shorthand; and the

11 foregoing proceedings constitute a true and correct transcript

12 of said proceedings to the best of my ability.

13 I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not related to any

14 of the parties named herein, nor their counsel, and have no

15 interest, financial or otherwise, in the outcome or events of

16 these proceedings.

17 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my

18 official signature and seal of office, this the 12th day of

19 August, 2006.

20

21

22

Denise Harwood-Stacy, Notary Public

23 State of Tennessee

24

25 My Commission Expires: March 3rd, 2007.

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